FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PrEx 7.10: FBIS-SOV-78-79

FBIS-SOV-78-79
Monday
24 April 1978
Vol III No 79

DAILY REPORT

COMPLETED
ORIGINAL

SOVIET UNION

Available for Distribution
From NTIS

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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UN DISARMAMENT SESSION PREPARATORY COMMITTEE ENDS WORK

LD221048Y Moscow TASS in English 1024 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

[Text] New York, April 22, TASS--TASS correspondent Vladimir Matyash reports: The preparatory committee for the convocation of the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament, which will be held from May 23 to June 28, has concluded the last stage of its work. It has carried out complex work for creating the draft of the final document of the special session and for the quest of solutions of a range of questions connected with its organising. The spirit of cooperation and mutual understanding, the striving to take into consideration all opinions in this complex sphere of international relations was manifested during the committee's meetings.

The Soviet delegation, specifically, expressed the conviction that the quest of mutually acceptable solutions both on the declaration and on the action programme in the sphere of disarmament, that are based on taking into account political realities will have a positive effect on the talks on disarmament under way now and will also promote transition of the international community from talks on disarmament to real progress in disarmament.

Setting out the Soviet Union's position, the USSR representative Y. Fokin stressed that disarmament depends on the goodwill and efforts of all states, that not only all nuclear states but also all countries important in the military aspect must participate in disarmament. Proposals that do not take this into consideration will merely be hampering success in liquidation of the material base of war.

The task of limitation of the arms race requires constant impetus, initiatives aimed clearing approaches to disarmament, the Soviet representative said.

The Soviet representative pointed out that accord in the sphere of arms limitation and of disarmament depends, above all, on the political will of states, on their resolve to participate in achieving agreements.

Complex tasks must be solved for ensuring the success of the United Nation's special session on disarmament, he said. Agreement at the talks on measures of nuclear disarmament must be achieved, first of all.

Such measures include simultaneous cessation of production of nuclear weapons by all states, the pledge of nuclear powers to start gradually scaling down their stockpiles up to their complete liquidation. An end must be put to the development and production of nuclear weapons, including the neutron bomb. The session cannot bypass such a cardinal problem as prevention of an outbreak of a nuclear war. This would be a real contribution to curbing the arms race and to disarmament, to the strengthening of trust among nations, to the consolidation of the political detente and supplementing it with the military detente.

The Soviet representative pointed out that the Soviet Union's attitude to the United Nations special session on disarmament was expressed by the USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko who said: "The Soviet Union will bring to this session constructive proposals and the wish to achieve specific results. We hope that the special session will be an important stage along the road toward convening a world conference on disarmament, on whose need states agree and there is decision of the United Nations."

REASONABLE WESTERN STEPS WILL MEET SOVIET SUPPORT AT MBFR

LD211203Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent I. Melnikov dispatch: "At the Vienna Talks"]

[Text] Vienna, 19 April--Diplomats and military experts of the 19 states participating in the talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe held their latest plenary session here today. It completed the 14th round of the meetings, which have been going on in Vienna since October 1973.

After the session ended in the Hofburg Palace, a press conference took place at which representatives of the delegations of the Warsaw Pact and NATO member countries answered correspondents' questions. The important role of the Vienna talks, which are designed to shape a complex of measures for reducing military confrontation in the center of the European Continent, was noted, although the long path traveled so far has still not brought the sides to the specific drawing up of an agreement.

The position of the Soviet side and of the other socialist states has been marked by realism and by a sincere desire to get the talks moving. Addressing today's session, N.K. Tarasov, head of the USSR delegation, expressed concern over the fact that the drawing up of an agreement on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe has been delayed to an extreme degree in view of the unconstructive stance of the Western countries.

Having noted the positive development of the discussion on the numerical strength of forces in the region earmarked for reductions, and the exchange of supplementary figures on the basis of the socialist states' proposals of 25 October 1977, the Soviet representative declared that this has not, however, brought the participants any closer to achieving the talks' main goals. Certain leading NATO countries have evidently had no serious interest in seeking mutually acceptable solutions. A desire to consider the intensification of the arms race as being of paramount importance and to achieve military superiority over the socialist states has shown through in their policy. The dangerous plans for the production and deployment of neutron weapons in this region have not been wholly abandoned. the NATO countries are continuing to reject the Warsaw Pact states' proposals that armed forces should not be increased during the talks.

Touching on the Soviet Union's principled approach to the talks on arms limitation, the head of the USSR delegation referred to the speech delivered by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on 7 April this year on board the cruiser Admiral Senyavin. "We resolutely reject," it was stressed in this speech, "any attempts to impose on us unacceptable terms in an agreement. We have said, and we do say, that the Soviet Union favors the speediest conclusion of an accord, but only of a kind in strict accordance with the principle of equality and identical security, and which would properly embody this fundamental principle. We do not demand that an agreement should give us any advantages at the expense of the other side but we expect precisely the same approach from the other side."

This utterance can also be applied fully to the Vienna talks. The West's demand that the socialist countries should reduce their forces by almost three times as much as the Western countries would lead to a sharp change in NATO's favor in the existing correlation of forces, which, as the official figures submitted at the talks confirm, is characterized by an approximate balance.

At the end of his speech, the USSR's representative declared that the socialist countries delegations are carefully studying the proposals submitted by the West, considering how far the latter can promote the drawing up of mutually acceptable solutions. Any step by the Western participants in the talks aimed at a really mutual reduction of troops and armaments in central Europe, which gives no one one-sided military advantages and which is not detrimental to anyone's security, will engender the socialist states' support.

An adjournment of the talks until the second half of May was announced.

POLISH DELEGATE REJECTS COLLECTIVE CEILING FOR TROOPS

LD132037Y Moscow TASS in English 2023 GMT 13 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Vienna, April 13, TASS--TASS correspondent Igor Maslov reports:

The fourteenth round of the negotiations on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe is approaching completion. Today the parties to the talks held their 167th closed plenary meeting, which was addressed by Ambassador Tadeusz Strulak, leader of the Polish delegation.

Newsmen were told by the press spokesman of the Polish delegation that T. Strulak pointed out in his speech that the Vienna negotiations had entered a rather important stage. Touching on the statements by Western delegations concerning their readiness to seek progress, the ambassador noted that an analysis of the principal points of the Western stand suggests that the West should make substantial changes in it in order to make possible mutually acceptable decisions. Their end result should be a genuine parity of forces instead of the unfair asymetric reduction, advocated by the West. Such a reduction would jeopardize the security of the socialist states.

In a talk with your correspondent the spokesman of the Polish delegation said that the demand for a "collective ceiling" for the armed forces of the West European states and Canada pursued the purpose of camouflaging the character of their future commitments. Such a solution of the question would have a negative effect on their possible contribution to the process of reducing the armed forces and armaments. The Western concept of "collective ceilings" contradicts the very idea of the talks.

The negative approach of the West European states and Canada to the reduction of armaments in central Europe seriously worries the socialist states--participants of the Vienna dialogue.

In conclusion the Polish representative noted that of great importance, as before, is the proposal of the socialist states not to increase the numerical strength of the armed forces in the region of the future reduction for the duration of the talks in Vienna. The West, however, has so far not expressed its readiness to accept this proposal.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD231510Y Moscow International Service in Russian 0730 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

["International Observers Roundtable" with moderator Farid Seyful-Mulyukov, Central Television and All-Union Radio political observer; Albert Grigoryants, IZVESTIYA foreign section editor; and Sergey Kulik, TASS political observer]

[Text] [Seyful-Mulyukov] Hello, comrades. The Soviet people and all progressive mankind festively marked the 108th anniversary of Vladimir Ilich Lenin's birth. "May the name and cause of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, the creator and leader of the Communist Party and the world's first socialist state, live down the centuries!" says one of the slogans, which in accordance with tradition our party's Central Committee issued on the eve of the day of international solidarity of the working people. With the support of that mighty ideological weapon of the working people of all countries--Marxist-Leninist teaching--Lenin's party is waging an energetic struggle for the cause of communism and for peace and progress.

Guided by Lenin's directives, the CPSU Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo with Leonid Ilich Brezhnev at its head steadfastly come out for safeguarding the people's peace and security and deepening the relaxation of tension, for disarmament and peaceful cooperation between states with differing social systems and against the danger of war. All the foreign policy activities of the CPSU are directed at implementing the program drawn up by the 25th party congress of further struggle for peace and international cooperation and for the people's freedom and independence.

These days of April have been marked by fresh steps by the CPSU and the Soviet state to strengthen the positions of world socialism and the people's struggle for national liberation, peace and social progress. The meeting in Moscow of Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev with Edward Gierek, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, who was awarded the Order of the October Revolution, has been at the focus of attention of the fraternal socialist countries and the world public. The Polish people expressed profound satisfaction at the results of the meeting between the leaders of the two countries. As noted in a special decision by the PZPR Central Committee Politburo, the talks between comrades Brezhnev and Gierek are of great importance for the further all-round development of fraternal interaction between the PZPR and the CPSU and for the deepening of friendship between the two peoples.

Relations of fraternal friendship and many-sided cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Cuba have reached a high level. These relations continue to develop steadily. Such an assessment was made of the cooperation between our countries during the talk of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev with Comrade Malmierca, the minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Cuba.

[Kulik] Following the behests of Lenin, the Soviet Union continues to act on the side of people struggling for their independence and sovereignty against aggression and reaction and for social progress. The public of independent Africa is now commenting on the results of the meeting of Comrade Brezhnev with Agostinho Neto, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola. During this meeting there was a discussion of issues relating to a further deepening and development of friendly relations and fruitful cooperation between the Soviet Union and Angola, and of African and international problems. Agostinho Neto expressed deep gratitude to the Soviet people, the CPSU Central Committee and Comrade Brezhnev personally for the disinterested fraternal aid in defending the independence and strengthening the defense capability and the economic development of the People's Republic of Angola. He stated Angola's full solidarity with the Soviet Union in the anti-imperialist struggle to safeguard peace and security.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] On 19 April Leonid Ilich Brezhnev also received Burnham, leader of the People's National Congress Party and prime minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana. The sides unanimously expressed their resolute support for the liberation, anti-imperialist and anticolonialist struggle of people striving to secure their political and economic independence. They regard the support of the countries of socialism as one of the guarantees of the success of this struggle.

Vance Moscow Visit

Born under the sign of Lenin's decree on peace, the Soviet state is pursuing a course in the international arena, which is imbued with genuine love of peace. Our country is making particularly active efforts to achieve real disarmament. The conclusion between the Soviet Union and the United States of a long-term agreement of limiting strategic offensive armaments on the basis of the principle of equality and the same security for the sides can become a big step on the way toward this goal. The attention of the broad circles of the world public is now drawn to the Soviet-U.S. talks in Moscow.

[Grigoryants] For us, these talks concern the most important problem--how to insure the highest right of man, the right to a peaceful life. This is an urgent task. Specific measures to ease the nuclear threat and promote disarmament are important. This thought was formulated strikingly by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in his speech to the sailors of the Pacific Fleet. Under current conditions, Leonid Ilich said, there is no task more important--affecting the fate of every person on earth--than achieving real disarmament. It is easy to understand the importance of an accord on this issue between the Soviet Union and the United States for the fate of general peace. If our countries reach an agreement on limiting strategic armaments, there will be a genuine breakthrough on the path to military detente. This is why the attention of the world public is constantly rivetted on the Soviet-U.S. talks on this issue.

These talks have been in progress for a long time. Each time that an agreement seems near, the U.S. opponents of detente launch a noisy campaign to intimidate the public with the mythical Soviet threat and an invention that the U.S. is lagging behind the Soviet Union. As a result they foil an accord. I must say that these talks have become the pivot of the confrontation in the United States between those circles which favor a return to the cold war, and those who are sufficiently sober and realize the danger of a policy of confrontation with the Soviet Union. The former are particularly active. The Committee for the present danger has become notorious. Its members are completely against any agreement and are striving for totally unrestricted production of all sorts of missiles and new types of weapons. The debate over the plans for the production and deployment of the neutron bomb has become extremely sharp in U.S. political circles. As is known, the President's half-hearted decision does not solve the problem. It allows the United States to continue improving new weapons. This is evidenced by Carter's directive to begin modernization of the nuclear warhead for the Lance missile and an 8-inch howitzer for subsequent use of neutron charges in them. The opponents of an agreement with the Soviet Union are attempting to link the problem of arms control with other issues having nothing to do with it. The Soviet proposal for a mutual renunciation of production of neutron weapons is well-known. We are ready to carry out exactly the same commitments as the United States, but certain circles there are attempting to turn neutron weapons into an object of bargaining with the Soviet Union and are trying to obtain serious concessions from us in matters relating to the defense capability and security of our country. All this conceals only one thing--a striving to avoid the Soviet Union's clear-cut and specific proposal for a mutual renunciation of production of neutron weapons.

One must say that a large number of realistically minded people in the United States understand the hopelessness of these attempts to link a solution of the neutron weapons issue with issues regarding the strengthening of the defense capability of the Soviet Union, which have nothing to do with that type of weapon.

[Kulik] Incidentally, there are also many people in the U.S. Congress who believe that bargaining over this frightful new weapon is not appropriate and that it is absolutely necessary to renounce it unconditionally. It is reckoned that at least 100 members of Congress adhere to this sober point of view. Certain representatives in the administration think this way also. For instance, Shulman, the U.S. secretary of state's special adviser, said in a New York TIMES interview that energetic measures are needed at the talks on the limitation of strategic armaments, and that the problem is urgent because, unless there is an agreement, both sides will continue to develop and deploy additional weapons systems, which they would not do if treaty restrictions existed. But, Shulman said, the new systems will proliferate everywhere.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] The interest of the international public in the Soviet-U.S. talks in Moscow, where Secretary of State Cyrus Vance has arrived, is understandable. There has been a detailed consideration of the status of preparations for a new agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States on limiting strategic offensive armaments. From the very outset both sides expressed a readiness to improve and expand Soviet-U.S. relations.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1200 GMT on 23 April expands this section to include: I think, therefore, that the international public's deep interest in the Soviet-U.S. talks in Moscow, with U.S. Secretary of State Vance on 20-21 April, is understandable.

[He was received by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and had several meetings with Comrade Gromyko.

[During Vance's stay in Moscow there was an exchange of opinions on the key problems of Soviet-U.S. relations and also on several international problems of mutual interest to the Soviet Union and the United States.

[During Vance's talks with Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, main attention was devoted to the status of preparations for a new agreement between the USSR and the United States on strategic offensive arms limitation. Having noted that the Soviet-U.S. Moscow talks on that problem were useful, Comrade Brezhenv stressed the importance of both sides making energetic efforts to find mutually acceptable solutions to all the issues which still have to be settled. The Soviet and U.S. sides expressed determination to work toward a rapid completion of the strategic arms limitation agreement, so that it could concluded as soon as possible. This would correspond equally to the interests of the security of the Soviet Union and the United States and also to the interests of strengthening universal peace and international security.]

Brezhenv FRG Visit

The Soviet state undeviatingly pursues a course aimed at deepening detente and developing mutually beneficial cooperation with all countries. There is great interest among the international public over the coming official visit to the FRG by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and this is understandable. You see, it is an event of exceptional international importance. The sharp turnabout in the history of Soviet-West German relations and the beneficial changes on the European Continent are connected with the name Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. Albert Aramovich, I should like you to comment on the importance of this visit for the cause of detente and for the cause of improving relations between our countries.

[Grigoryants] The treaty between our countries, signed in 1970, has been a firm basis for Soviet-West German relations. Since then the treaty has been implemented step by step. And the Soviet-West German summit meeting will of course play an enormous role here. Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's last visit to the Rhine was in 1973. Since then the FRG leaders have been in Moscow more than once, and each time the talks gave a new impulse to the expansion and strengthening of the links between our countries. The FRG governing circles, public and press, attribute vast significance to the forthcoming visit by the Soviet leader. The agenda includes topical issues concerning bilateral relations and the international situation. Detente in all its dimensions--political, military and economic--this is now the main task of all those to whom the fate of peace in Europe is dear.

The Soviet Union's position is clear. The document on the results of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's visit to the areas of Siberia and the Far East again stresses the need to intensify the struggle to deepen the process of detente. The other day, after discussing the government statement by FRG Chancellor Schmidt, the West German Bundestag adopted a resolution confirming its determination to continue the policy of detente and cooperation on the basis of reciprocity.

In a recent interview with Soviet journalists, Brandt, chairman of the Social Democratic Party, said that the success of the forthcoming Bonn talks would further cooperation in Europe and would stimulate the process of detente. Observers believe that economic cooperation also will be the subject of detailed talks. The papers are saying that the FRG Government intends to make specific proposals for the expansion of long-term economic cooperation. Moreover, an increase in the number of major joint projects is being considered.

Today the FRG is a most important Western trade partner for the Soviet Union. Trade exchange has reached DM 11 billion. Experts believe that major agreements, not only on trade but also on industrial cooperation, are due to be examined. Broad circles of the public warmly welcome the forthcoming official visit to the Rhine by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. They link this visit with the hope for a deepening of the process of detente and for the consolidation of universal peace.

Situation in Lebanon

[Seyful-Mulyukov] As before, the world public's attention is focused on events in the Near East. The attention of international observers this week was drawn to the visit of UN Secretary General Waldheim to the Near East. He visited Lebanon and Israel. As the French LE MATIN stresses, Kurt Waldheim got a cold reception in Tel Aviv. This is easily explained: The UN secretary general saw the main task of his mission as achieving the speediest implementation of the Security Council's resolution demanding the immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces from southern Lebanon. But the Israeli aggressors are coming up with all sorts of conditions and obstacles to the implementation of that resolution and to the liberation of the Lebanese territory which they have perfidiously occupied.

Kurt Waldheim took a tour of southern Lebanon and was able to see for himself the grave consequences of the Israeli aggression for the peaceful civilian population. In Beirut the UN secretary general had talks with the Lebanese leaders and met Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization. It is reported from Beirut that the Palestinian leader confirmed the readiness of the PLO to assist the UN forces in the complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from southern Lebanon.

These forces already number over 2,500 men, and talks are in progress on a further increase of the blue helmet contingent in southern Lebanon.

But despite all that the main question, on the immediate and complete withdrawal of the Israeli occupiers' forces from southern Lebanon, remains unresolved, as before. Israel's actions on occupied Lebanese territory show that Tel Aviv is continuing to consolidate its position in southern Lebanon and is getting away with only a symbolic and formal withdrawal of its forces from certain regions.

[Kulik] I would like to cite the following example. Engineering units of the Israeli Army are continuing to consolidate the positions of the occupiers, laying roads and building bridges in the central and eastern sectors of southern Lebanon. New lines of communication are being created along the Lebanese-Israeli border, so that the Israeli command can transfer its forces southwards. At populated points in southern Lebanon the invaders are forceably seizing the best agricultural plots. It is also reported that in the occupied regions Israeli money has been circulated, and Arabic road signs have been replaced with signs in Hebrew. At the same time the Israeli invaders are hurriedly arming detachments of the rightwing Christian forces in the south, which are commanded by Major Haddad, the not unknown collaborator.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] Thus, by drawing out implementation of the Security Council resolution, Israel is trying to retain a 10 km-wide strip of southern Lebanon along the border from the Mediterranean coast to the spurs of Mount Hermon. Weizman, the minister of defense, has stated bluntly that the Israeli forces will withdraw no further than the so-called security belt in southern Lebanon. This notorious security belt is nothing but Israel's expansionist aspiration toward fertile south Lebanese territory. And it is useful to recall that territorial claims to the south of Lebanon were formulated by the Zionists as long ago as at the end of the last century, by their theorist Theodor Herzl. Menahem Begin has acted as the executor of that aggressive plan. This time, says the Italian magazine EUROPEO, the Zionists have decided not to repeat the mistake they made on the West Bank of the Jordan: Having seized this territory by force, Israel was obliged to reconcile itself to the fact that 1.2 million Palestinians remained there, and became opponents of the Israeli occupation. In southern Lebanon the Israeli forces preferred to wipe everything off the face of the earth, the magazine stresses. With the aid of bombardments and firing they made the civil population leave, and thereby removed the possibility of dangerous popular actions. That is why the struggle against the continuation of the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon is now the main task for the entire Lebanese people and for the Palestinian resistance movement.

Recently I was in Lebanon. I talked with leaders of the Lebanese national-patriotic forces and the PLO. They told me that they would continue to wage the armed struggle against the Israeli invaders in defense of the security, independence and unity of Lebanon.

In occupying southern Lebanese territory, however, Israel has not achieved its main aim--to smash and suppress the Palestinian resistance movement. The Israeli hawks are now trying to achieve this aim by renewing the civil war in Lebanon. Since the Israeli aggression, the situation in that country has become even more complicated. As you know, a week ago in Beirut there were several days of fierce clashes between detachments of rightwing forces and the inter-Arab forces, whose purpose is to insure peace and security in Lebanon. With the support and encouragement of the Israeli occupiers, assault detachments of Lebanese reaction are trying to provoke new armed clashes with Palestinians and the Lebanese progressives. The leaders of the right, such as Camille Shamun, bluntly state that unless the problem of the Palestinian presence in Lebanon is solved, a new civil war is inevitable.

The leaders of the rightwing Christian parties are demanding that the Lebanese Government propose the question of the Palestinians' presence in the country for discussion by the Chamber of Deputies. The reactionary Beirut press is publishing reports that the rightwing forces are demanding a reduction in the number of Palestinians living in Lebanon, their resettlement in other Arab countries and disarmament of the Palestinian resistance units.

[Grigoryants] I would like to say that the situation in Lebanon has become even worse in connection with the resignation the other day of the Lebanese government, which was led by Prime Minister al-Huss. The Beirut progressive press stresses that one of the main reasons for the resignation was the campaign of attacks unleashed against the government by the conservative forces.

The only way of avoiding a deepening of the country's crises, AN-NIDA, the paper of the Lebanese communists, notes, is to concentrate efforts on solving Lebanon's basic problems, primarily on eliminating the Israeli occupation.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] Israel's aggressiveness in southern Lebanon, which has worsened the situation in that country, is being reinforced by As-Sadat's capitulatory policy in the Near East. Haykal, the well known Egyptian journalist and politician, wrote bluntly the other day: As-Sadat's approach to solving the Near East problem has only whetted the Israeli expansionists' appetite. They are now making demands which they would not have dared to make before. The most to which the As-Sadat initiative can lead, Haykal stressed, is the conclusion of a separate agreement between Egypt and Israel. It can give no more than that, especially considering the disorder in the Arab world caused by these steps.

The foreign press reports that the United States has again renewed its mediatory efforts, sending Atherton, the State Department's special representative, to Cairo and Tel Aviv.

However, international observers do not expect this new U.S. attempt, within the framework of the separate settlement, to produce any positive results. The Israeli leaders continue to take a hard line on all the key issues of a Near East settlement, opposing a just resolution of the Palestinian problem and the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied Arab territories.

Horn of Africa

[Kulik] I think it would be no exaggeration to say that the same forces which are hampering a Near East settlement are also backing up the tense situation in a neighboring area--the Horn of Africa.

The end of the armed conflict there created favorable conditions for the establishment of genuine peace, which corresponds to the interests of all countries in northeast Africa. Essential conditions for the attainment of such a peace must be the renunciation of territorial claims on each other by all the states of that area and the mutual pledge to observe the principles of the United Nations and the OAU on the nonapplication of force in settling international quarrels and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

Meanwhile, the situation in the Horn of Africa has by no means returned to normal. On the contrary, in the opinion of the American UPI agency, it is even worsening again, with previously neutral Kenya--to whose northern territory the Somali extremists are also laying claim--being drawn more deeply into the conflict.

It is becoming increasingly obvious that certain circles both in the West and also in the Arab world, which are urging Somalia to continue its aggressive actions against its neighbors, are working toward turning the Horn of Africa into another area of constant international tension. They are banking on hampering the development of profound progressive transformations in Ethiopia, in one of the region's biggest countries, and, with the aid of talk about the imaginary Soviet threat, creating grounds for the permanent military presence of the imperialist powers in the Red Sea area.

There appear to be several main trends in Western policy toward achieving these goals. First, the United States and other NATO countries, by giving diplomatic support to Mogadiscio, are pushing Somalia to give open political and armed aid to the sabcteurs who are sent into the Ogaden and other age-old Ethiopian territories. This support has assumed such proportions of late that is has enabled Ethiopia to accuse Somalia of continuing the policy of aggression. Addis Ababa has warned that if the aggression continues Ethiopia will take all the necessary measures to deal a severe retaliatory blow against Somali territory.

Second, the West is encouraging Mogadiscio's aggressive aspirations by supplying Somalia with large consignments of modern arms.

Third and last, for the second week NATO powers are concentrating their warships off the coast of Socialist Ethiopia. Such an unprecedented demonstration of strength, in which units of the navies of the United States, Britain and France are participating, is seen by the progressive public as a direct attempt by the imperialist powers to exert pressure on Ethiopia and to further inflame the situation in that region, which is explosive enough as it is.

Thus, it is becoming increasingly obvious that the forces of international reaction, which organized the plot against revolutionary Ethiopia, have not abandoned their plans and are now striving by other means to achieve the goals which they failed to reach with the aid of the Somali intervention in the Ogaden.

[Grigoryants] It would obviously be appropriate here to recall that Peking has recently begun to play an ever increasing role among the enemies of socialist Ethiopia. At any rate, many foreign political observers, in summing up the results of the Somali president's recent visit to China, are drawing such a conclusion.

[Kulik] This conclusion, of course, is correct: like the opinions that Siad Barre's visit to Peking was used by the Chinese leaders as a fresh pretext for kindling anti-Sovietism. This was precisely the position that China used to evaluate the events in the Horn of Africa before promising military aid to the Mogadiscio regime.

As the Kenyan SUNDAY NATION writes, Peking will begin supplying arms to Somalia, since it believes the present moment to be exceptionally opportune for an attempt to establish itself in certain African countries and from there to sow dissention and discord among the developing countries.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] In seeking to win over the guests from Somalia, the Chinese leadership were not sparing with their promises of economic aid. However, as the experience of mutual relations with other Third World countries teaches, the PRC rarely carries out these promises.

China, the Washington POST writes, has no economic possibilities of providing Somalia with the aid necessary to overcome the serious crisis caused by the war with Ethiopia.

In general, Peking used the arrival of the Somali president largely for its own propaganda purposes.

Siad Barre's visit to China, which caused extreme watchfulness among Somalia's neighbors, once again showed that the Peking leadership's aims are at odds with the genuine interests of the people of the developing countries.

Rhodesia, Namibia Initiatives

[Grigoryants] Of course, the situation in other parts of Africa also drew the attention of our listeners in the last week. One of the central themes remained the situation in southern Africa and, in particular, the so-called Western initiative on the future of Rhodesia and Namibia.

What is the main aim of the diplomacy of the United States and Britain in that part of the African Continent?

[Kulik] One gets the impression that the main aim of the diplomacy of the United States and Britain has nothing to do with bringing about radical changes in Rhodesia and Namibia, but in merely creating the appearance that the West is striving for change.

Such tactics enable the racists to gain time, consolidate their positions, make short work of the patriots and thereby attempt to realize the neocolonialist schemes which have been coordinated with the West.

Having put forward several months ago their plan for the future of Rhodesia, which was known to be unacceptable to the Zimbabwe patriots, Washington and London counted on pushing Ian Smith into talks with the opportunistic African leaders who suited the West. This was done to create the impression that progress had been made on the Rhodesian problem. Then Ian Smith, who was about to sink in the stormy sea of Rhodesia's political and economic problems, seized the straw thrown to him by the authors of the Anglo-U.S. plan. Having found puppet partners for himself in Salisbury, he concluded the notorious internal settlement agreement, which virtually bars the patriotic forces from the leadership of Zimbabwe.

It would appear that Smith, having brazenly rejected the Anglo-U.S. plan, had given the West another slap in the face. However, Washington and London endured it, taking into consideration imperialism's long-term strategic goals in Africa.

The alliance of the racist Smith and the neo-colonialist puppets suits the West. Therefore, having complained about the illegality of the internal settlement, U.S. diplomacy soon called the Salisbury deal a considerable step forward, while Britain, according to an admission by THE TIMES, privately expressed readiness to do business with the Rhodesian puppet Executive Council as a recognized body. That being so, the Salisbury puppets began to talk with Washington and London on an equal footing.

The present stage in the West's Rhodesian initiative involves attempts by U.S. and British diplomats to improve the image of the settlement. Look, they say, we really have been seeking the patriots' participation in resolving the future of Zimbabwe; after all we called the internal settlement and the government based on it illegal; but, after all, that government now exists and we must take it into consideration. In the meantime however, the Rhodesian Interim Government, if one may call it that, which represents the interests of the white racists and a small group of black chiefs, categorically repudiated the Anglo-U.S. plan to hold a conference on the future of Rhodesia with the participation of the Patriotic Front.

As Joshua Nkomo, one of the leaders of the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe, said, the West's position on the issue of the future of Rhodesia is very evasive and is indicative of the striving of the United States, Britain and other Western states to give support, by any means, to the shameful deal concluded by Ian Smith with the African leaders who are inclined toward compromise.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] There, comrades, we end our conversation. Thank you for your attention. Till we meet again on the air!

PONOMAREV TO SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL DISARMAMENT SESSION

LD231134Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, left Moscow today for Helsinki to participate in a conference of the Socialist International on disarmament at the invitation of its organizers.

At Vnukovo Airport, he was seen off by Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and other officials.

Arrives in Helsinki

LD231439Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Boris Ponomarev, alternate Politburo member, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, arrived in Helsinki to take part in a conference of the Socialist International on disarmament at the invitation of its organizers.

He was welcomed at the airport by chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Finland Ulf Sundquist, General Secretary of the Socialist International Bernt Karlsson and other officials, including Soviet Ambassador to Finland Vladimir Stepanov.

The same day Finnish Prime Minister Sorsa gave a luncheon in Comrade Ponomarev's honor. There was an exchange of speeches during the luncheon, which took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

WFTU CONGRESS IN PRAGUE CONCLUDES, ADOPTS DOCUMENTS

LD221847Y Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Prague, April 22, TASS--The participants in the World Congress of Trade Unions have discussed a broad range of questions pertaining to the position, rights and interests of the working class the role of the trade unions in the struggle for peace and security of the peoples. A total of 120 people participated in the discussion held at the congress.

Enrique Pastorino, chairman of the World Federation of Trade Unions, made a concluding speech today. He stressed, specifically, that the results of the discussion would enhance the efficiency of the struggle waged by the World Federation of Trade Unions against imperialism, multi-national monopolies, fascism, racism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, for peace and a new economic order. The congress has demonstrated an open and democratic character of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

It has reaffirmed the trade union's growing role in the world and the determination of the members of the trade unions to fight not only for satisfaction of economic and social demands of the working people but also against the very structure of bourgeois society.

The delegates of the congress have elected new guiding bodies of the World Federation of Trade Unions, adopted "a document of orientation and action", "a general declaration of trade union rights" and a number of other documents on pressing problems of the present.

This rounded off the work of the 9th World Congress of Trade Unions.

Unity of Strategy

LD2321147 Moscow TASS in English 2051 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Prague, April 23 TASS--TASS correspondent Leonid Latyshev reports: The 9th World Congress of Trade Unions ended here. The international trade union movement has never held such a representative congress before: Represented were 303 trade union organizations of 126 countries.

The congress showed that a dialogue between trade union organizations of different trends is not only possible, but that complete unity could be attained on the main questions of strategy of the world trade-union movement at the contemporary stage. The correctness of the policy of the World Federation of Trade Unions was confirmed, as it consistently came out for strengthening international solidarity of working people on a broad democratic basis.

The prestige and influence of the WFTU is constantly growing in the world trade-union movement. Since the 8th World Trade Union Congress the number of WFTU affiliated organizations increased from 59 to 73 and membership increased by 20 million, coming today to 190 million.

Solidarity is the core of all the documents adopted by congress. Its participants reached the common view that national egoism, isolation in one's own country, result in a weakening of the struggle by workers and peoples.

Solidarity is indivisible, it is all-embracing. All the trade unions, whatever the socio-political system in which they operate, are interested in it in equal measure.

The document of orientation and actions elaborated in detail the trade union's programme of struggle for peace, for disarmament, for banning nuclear and chemical weapons, against the neutron bomb.

All in all, congress participants unanimously adopted 29 resolutions in which they expressed their attitude to all the crucial events in the world, expressed solidarity with the struggle of all the peoples suffering from oppression, poverty, racism, apartheid and war.

The 9th World Trade Union Congress is a big success in the struggle for the unity of the international trade union movement.

VANCE HOLDS MOSCOW TALKS ON SALT WITH BREZHNEV, GROMYKO

Exchange With Gromyko

LD211742Y Moscow TASS in English 1736 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 21 TASS--Today the USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and USA Secretary of State Cyrus Vance continued their talks in the Kremlin. They concentrated attention on a further examination of questions connected with preparations for a strategic arms limitation treaty. Other questions of limiting arms and of disarmament were also touched upon. An exchange of views was held also on the problems of a Middle East settlement, and on some other international issues.

Brezhnev, Vance Discuss SALT

LD221230Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Today Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received in the Kremlin U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and had a conversation with him, in which Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and minister of foreign affairs of the Soviet Union, took part.

In addition to questions concerning the overall condition of Soviet-American relations, the main attention during the conversation was devoted to the state of preparations of a new agreement between the USSR and the United States on the limitation of strategic offensive weapons. Noting that the Soviet-American Moscow talks on this problem had been useful, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev stressed the importance of energetic efforts by both sides to find mutually acceptable solutions to all the unsettled questions.

Both sides expressed the intention to quickly complete the drafting of an agreement on the limitation of strategic weapons so that it might be concluded as soon as possible. This would correspond equally with the interests of the security of the USSR and the United States, as well as the interests of strengthening universal peace and international security.

Present at the conversation on the Soviet side were Dobrynin, the Soviet Union's ambassador in the United States; and Aleksandrov, aide to the CPSU Central Committee general secretary; and on the American side, Toon, U.S. ambassador in the Soviet Union.

Vance Departure Statement

LD231938Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Secretary of State Cyrus Vance left Moscow today. At Vnukovo Airport, which was decked out in the state flags of the two countries, Vance was seen off by Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and other officials.

Before his departure, Cyrus Vance made the following statement to journalists [announcer-read]:

First of all I should like to express my gratitude to President Brezhnev and Foreign Minister Gromyko for their warm hospitality and the friedly and constructive spirit in which they held our meeting.

We made some progress toward achieving an agreement on strategic arms limitation, and we hope to continue those efforts at subsequent meetings. The people of the world face no problem which is more important than this key effort to introduce common sense into regulating military competition, particularly in the field of strategic weapons.

I think that we also achieved some progress in moving toward a better understanding of those problems of relations between the Soviet Union and the United States. We are approaching those problems realistically and know that they will not be solved by declarations, but will need future practical measures and constant efforts. We intend to work on these problems resolutely, with the realization that relations between the Soviet Union and the United States are a central factor in universal peace and stability.

Joint Report Issued

LD221940Y Moscow TASS in English 1923 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

[Joint Report on Soviet-U.S. Talks"--TASS headline; Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1900 GMT on 22 April repeats following item, calling it a "Joint Statement"--Soobshcheniy]

[Text] Moscow, April 22, TASS--Follows text of the joint report on Soviet-U.S. talks.

Cyrus Vance, U.S. Secretary of State, was in Moscow on April, 20-22. He was received by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and held several meetings with Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR.

There was an exchange of views on key matters of Soviet-U.S. relations as well as on some international problems which are of mutual interest to the USSR and the USA.

Special attention during the talks was given to the task of elaboration and implementation of further measures aimed at preventing nuclear war and at limiting armaments. In this connection the sides held a useful and detailed discussion of the state of affairs in preparation of a new agreement on limiting strategic offensive arms. As a result of that the positions of the sides on some of the remaining uncoordinated matters drew some what closer together. The intention to make energetic efforts so that the agreement on limiting strategic offensive arms could be concluded as soon as possible was expressed on both sides.

The state of affairs at other talks on limiting arms was considered, too, and the two sides agreed, in particular, to continue, together with Britain, the work towards reaching agreement on complete and general ban on nuclear weapons' tests at an earliest date.

The two sides emphasized the big importance which they attach to achieving progress at the talks on mutual reduction of the armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

While discussing arms limitation matters the sides also exchanged views in connection with the U.N. General Assembly's forthcoming special session on disarmament.

It was agreed that the discussion of the matters which were the subject of the talks in Moscow will be continued.

Taking part in the talks were: on the Soviet side--Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the USSR, first deputy minister of defence of the USSR; G.M. Korniyenko and V.S. Semyonov, deputy ministers of foreign affairs of the USSR; and A.F. Dobrynin, the ambassador of the USSR to the USA; on the U.S. side--Malcolm Toon, the ambassador of the USA to the USSR; Paul Warnke, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency; Marshall Shulman, special adviser to the U.S. secretary of state; as well as other officials on both sides.

U.S. Reactions

LD230001Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1635 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Viktor Onikin]

[Text] Talks are being held in Moscow between Gromyko and Vance. Igor Charikov, our correspondent in New York, talks about reactions in the United States to the talks in Moscow.

The completion of the preparation and conclusion of a long-term Soviet-American agreement on strategic offensive arms limitation is seen here in the United States as a very important stage in the relations between the two countries. It is no coincidence that both prior to and during the present talks in Moscow, the American press attached and continues to attach much attention to this question.

Widely commenting on the recent Vladivostok speech by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, the bulk of observers stressed the Soviet side's readiness to achieve a speedy accord, based on the principle of equality and equal security. As is known, Comrade Brezhnev's speech contained a just criticism of the indecisive and inconsistent U.S. position and its attempts to gain one-sided advantages.

[Onikin] How was this criticism received in the United States?

[Charikov] The response of the American public and a large number of politicians shows that this criticism was accepted with understanding. Americans are expressing the hope that their leaders have a sober and realistic approach to a solution to this problem, and that they will demonstrate, not just in words but also in deeds, a mutual readiness to overcome the existing difficulties. A departure from the tactics of procrastination and the setting of unrealistic conditions, which the extreme reactionary circles are trying to impose in every possible way, will make it possible, Americans believe, to bring the talks back to a constructive approach. The success of the talks and the final conclusion of a long-term agreement will strengthen the process of detente and create conditions for further steps on the path toward disarmament. Such statements may be heard both at meetings and in private conversations with representatives of scientific and business circles and leaders of various groups and organizations.

In spite of the efforts by Washington's hawks, the word detente has not vanished from the vocabulary of Americans. It is being imbued with more and more meaning and winning ever new advocates.

How do you envisage the practical advantages of detente? This is the question we repeatedly asked our interlocutors both here in New York, in Washington and other towns in the country. The answers were varied, but substantially they all meant the same thing: Detente is the way to remove the threat of war, to halt the arms race and to cut down on military spending. Detente means greater allocations to social needs and the creation of new jobs for 6 million unemployed Americans. These answers demonstrate the clear interconnection between the urgent demands of America's working people and the wide approval of the policy of international detente.

ANTI-SOVIET 'SPECTACLE' IN MOSCOW AIMED AT HARMING TALKS

LD211800Y Moscow TASS in English 1537 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 21, TASS--TASS political commentator Yuriy Kornilov writes: Certain circles in the West, especially in the United States, stubbornly persist in continuing their slanderous propaganda outcry concerning mythical "violations of human rights" in the USSR. The anti-Soviet spectacle-provocation staged yesterday near the building of the U.N. Embassy in Moscow was used as a new pretext for intensifying this clamour. The main character in this play was one I. McClellan, a woman without any specific occupation, who married an American in order to travel abroad, and alleges that her rights are being "infringed" by Soviet authorities. The other characters in the play were a small group of American journalists who came to the scene of action in advance. Hardly had this play ended when slanderous stories were already sent to American bourgeois newspapers with familiar, though threadbare, contentions about the "violation of rights" of citizens in the USSR, etc.

Among those who hurried to the spectacle near the embassy building were not only some American correspondents accredited in Moscow, such as Stanglin and Polk (UPI), Kent (ASSOCIATED PRESS), Fischer (Los Angeles TIMES), Whitney (New York TIMES) and Gallagher (Chicago TRIBUNE). The entire NBC camera crew, that specially came to Moscow allegedly to cover the visit by the U.S. secretary of state, was also there for the anti-Soviet show. It is apt to ask: Why did the gentlemen from NBC make such a distant voyage--to cover the talks in Moscow seriously and with a sense of responsibility or just to hunt for a dubious, to say the least, "sensation" obviously with an anti-Soviet emphasis?

Another question arises: Is it not by chance that the provocation was organised near the building of the U.S. Embassy precisely at the time when very important, responsible Soviet-American talks are in progress in the Soviet capital. This is hardly a chance coincidence. It appears that some people would like, by raising an anti-Soviet hullabaloo around this provocation, to create a certain negative "background" for the talks. An extremely unseemly aim indeed.

U.S. 'TOTALLY WRONG' TO DEMAND SOVIET SALT CONCESSIONS

LD230228Y Moscow in English to North America 2330 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

["Moscow Viewpoint" by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] Lately the media round the world have been focusing on the Soviet-American dialog and, for one, the talks on limiting strategic offensive weapons. This issue is receiving a lot of attention in the United States. Especially noteworthy is the obvious double approach Washington is taking to this problem. On the one hand influential American politicians show an understanding for the necessity of progress in concluding a SALT-II agreement, but on the other certain groups in the American capital are putting forth more and more arguments aimed at blocking the agreement. Top officials in the administration are coming out for an agreement, or at least they are making public statements to that effect, but some influential senators and congressmen in the capital are among those who oppose progress at the talks.

It seems, however, that the opponents to an agreement are having a bigger influence on the administration than vice versa. There is now the paradoxical situation when certain persons are trying to make the United States public believe that the leading men in the administration are much less concerned with the country's security problems than some of the legislators.

Although it's hardly likely that a serious person would assume the responsibility to state that official representatives of the administration know a smaller volume of facts than, say, some of the senators who are well acquainted with the state of things in their constituencies, but for understandable reasons are much less informed in complicated and special issues discussed at Soviet-American talks.

Still, one gets the impression that in Washington the real estimation of the situation is sometimes sacrificed for domestic political considerations. Take, for instance, the demand that's being widely projected lately that the Soviet Union make certain concessions in connection with the SALT talks. The very posing of such a demand is, as I see it, totally wrong for it stems from the assumption that the United States, by coming to an agreement with the Soviet Union, is doing this country a sort of favor. But in fact the state of things is quite different. The Soviet Union and the United States are equally interested in achieving an agreement that would make it possible to limit strategic offensive weapons. When each side wants the principle of equal security, agreed on in Vladivostok, to be implemented, so that neither the Soviet Union nor the United States violate existing strategic equilibrium in their favor, this is quite understandable and grounded. But when it's claimed that America's very readiness to agreement commits the other side to make concessions and give Washington a bonus for readiness to make steps giving the United States an advantage, there's no real foundation under such a line.

The Soviet Union proceeds from the assumption that the United States is no less interested in an agreement, and therefore it's not realistic, to say the least, to expect from Moscow concessions which grant the United States one-sided advantages. As I see it, the root of the politically erroneous calculations by certain circles in Washington lies above all in the inability to understand the simple fact that the United States, no less than the other side, needs an end to the arms race and the immediate adoption of decisions limiting offensive strategic weapons.

But whereas some persons in Washington so far don't realize this, we here in Moscow understand the issue quite clearly. However, we are not trying to think in terms of demanding certain concessions from the United States. The only thing the Soviet Union is pressing for is to conclude agreements which would equally reflect the interests of both this country and the United States. Further, the foes of easing tension are attempting to put totally different issues into one package. In particular, the Soviet Union is accused of assisting the national liberation movements, and the demand is made that it end that assistance as a condition for signing an agreement on limiting strategic arms. In this connection I'd like to make two points. First, the Soviet Union, by giving assistance to the peoples fighting for their independence, is not pursuing any selfish aims--it's implementing a principled policy--and it seems clear to me that this is causing objections precisely in the United States, a country born in the fire of national liberation and struggle. Those who today are criticizing the Soviet Union must have studied United States history at school, and they know about the assistance that a number of countries had at the time given the American fighters against British colonial rule. But if that assistance is today recognized in the United States as a fact with undisputed legality, so what moral basis can there be for the persons who today are disputing the Soviet Union's right to support the liberation struggle of the peoples against modern colonialism?

And the second point, of a more concrete character: The SALT-II agreement now under discussion concerns strategic weapons, that is weapons that are not used in the conflicts and clashes in which the Soviet Union and the United States support different sides. This country always supports the peoples fighting for independence, whereas the United States, as a rule, backs the reactionary regimes, who are a direct or indirect weapon of imperialism and colonialism.

The achievement of an agreement on limiting strategic weapons doesn't therefore have a direct relation to the conflicts that the foes of the agreement are trying to link artificially to the Soviet-American talks. Such a linkage doesn't help to solve the issues involved in the peoples' struggle for independence but hampers the solution of the key problem of curbing the strategic arms race. Some persons in the United States don't conceal their intention to impose a new round of the arms race on the Soviet Union in an attempt to hamper its plans of economic development. But there's another side to this: The continuing arms race is putting more and more burdens on the United States economy. The problem of inflation that's lately causing such alarm in official Washington is closely and most directly linked with the tens of millions of dollars that the United States is spending to finance its military programs.

There can be no doubt that the arms race is a heavy economic burden, but the burden lies not only on the Soviet economy, it lies on the United States economy, too, and the talks about whose burden is heavier and who have (?acuter) political consequences because of that, well these are only talk. It's high time to realize that attempts to put pressure on the Soviet Union are fruitless. We frankly state our interest in ending the arms race, but in doing this we proceed first from the fact that the United States, politically, economically and from a military-strategic standpoint, needs that no less than the Soviet Union does. And, second, we proceed from the fact that the Soviet Union will never consent to an agreement impairing its national security and able to violate the current state of equilibrium.

SENATOR CRANSTON, PROFESSOR NEAL SUPPORT DETENTE

LD211844Y Moscow TASS in English 1746 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 21, TASS--Prominent political and public figures of the USA come out in support of detente, for an earliest conclusion of a new agreement on limiting strategic offensive arms.

Alan Cranston, deputy leader of the Democratic majority in the Senate, said in an interview with a TASS correspondent that there are certain difficulties in Soviet-U.S. relations. They have been brought about, in particular, by the different approach to such problems as a peaceful settlement in the Middle East, and the events in Africa. The two countries also differ on complex problems concerning strategic arms limitation. Alan Cranston said, however, that he, as a firm supporter of detente, considers that the problems can be settled. This would enable the two countries to make headway along the lines of further normalising bilateral relations. Senator Cranston emphasized that he does not approve the efforts of American opponents of detente who launched a noisy campaign round the mythical Soviet "threat" and are demanding to toughen the U.S. policy with regard to the USSR.

Fred Neal, a noted public figure, professor of the international relations faculty of the Claremont College, writes in the journal WORLD ISSUES that those who are concerned over the destinies of peace and the maintenance of international stability consider the policy of relaxation of tension between the USSR and the USA as the most promising development since the Second World War. He points out that the Soviet Union undoubtedly comes out for a continuation and expansion of cooperation with the United States and that the difficulties on this road have been brought about mainly by the lack of necessary initiatives on the part of the U.S. side. The article points out that it is not enough to state abstractly one's support for certain agreements with the Soviet Union while in actual fact assign the secondary role to the policy of relaxation of tension. The disregard, even if temporary one, for the tensions-easing policy, along the lines of which a permanent movement ahead is required, creates a serious threat of Soviet-U.S. relations moving to the position of 'cool war' which can easily develop into 'cold' and even 'shooting' war.

Professor Fred Neal called on the U.S. President to take necessary steps to strengthen the policy of detente between the two countries. His opinion is that among such steps could be an explicit reaffirmation of the importance of the policy of relaxation of tension in Soviet-U.S. relations for both the two countries and for international peace and stability; recognition of the necessity to observe the principle of parity and undiminished security recorded in the Vladivostok accord; the display of desire to eliminate discriminatory trade barriers with regard to the Soviet Union.

CANAL TREATY FIGHT REFLECTS DESIRE TO 'WIELD BIG STICK'

LD211357Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 78 p 5 LD

[Report by PRAVDA correspondent to T. Kolesnichenko: "Treaties With Panama Ratified"]

[Text] New York, 19 April--By a vote of 68-32 the U.S. Senate has ratified the treaty on handing over the Panama Canal to the Republic of Panama by the year 2000. The U.S. treaties with Panama (the first treaty--on the canal's neutrality--was approved on 16 March) replace the old, one-sided 1903 agreement, according to which the United States established a colonial enclave on Panamanian territory.

Whereas official propaganda tries to depict the results of the Senate vote as "a manifestation of U.S. good will" in relations with "small countries" and with "the Third World" as a whole, many commentators note that the United States essentially wants to preserve its right to wield a "big stick" against Panama.

It is characteristic that the Senate's "approval" was the result of a "victory" by only one vote more than the two-thirds required by the Constitution. During the long debates--the longest in Senate history since the discussion on the Versailles Treaty--the American legislators did all they could to emasculate the content of the treaty, especially the part relating to Panama's sovereignty, and to exert gross pressure on it.

REVISED WITHDRAWAL SCHEDULE FOR U.S. TROOPS IN S. KOREA

LD221718Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1035 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

["Support for Puppets"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington--The White House has published a statement by President J. Carter on "an alteration to the dates" for the withdrawal of American forces from South Korea. At the time Washington widely publicized this program, calculated to take 4 to 5 years, which does not mean the cessation of American military support for the Seoul regime. Now the already slow pace of withdrawal is being considerably retarded.

The President's statement indicates that only one American combat battalion will be withdrawn from South Korea in December, whereas originally he had intended to withdraw three battalions. As for the plans to increase the U.S. Air Force presence in South Korea, which is designed "to compensate" for the withdrawal of U.S. forces, these plans, as J. Carter emphasizes, remain unchanged.

At present there are 42,000 American servicemen in South Korea. Before the end of the year, only 800 of them will be withdrawn. On the other hand, the number of American combat aircraft in South Korea will be increased by 20 percent this fall.

The White House statement contains an appeal to Congress to sanction as soon as possible the granting to Seoul of a $275 million credit within the framework of the program for military support to foreign states. The President also insists on the endorsement without delay of his bill proposed on the dispatch to South Korea of American equipment valued at $800 million.

KENNEDY CRITICIZES LIFTING OF TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO

LD221820Y Moscow TASS in English 1704 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 22, TASS--Senator Edward Kennedy (Democrat, Massachusetts) criticized the U.S. Government's intention to press for the Congress to lift the embargo on the deliveries of American weapons to Turkey. Speaking in the Senate, the pointed out that this jeopardizes the fragile democratic process of settling the Cyprus problem.

The Senator said the Government of Cyprus is making serious efforts to solve the complex problems in relations between the island's Turkish and Greek communities. Edward Kennedy emphasized that in these conditions the U.S. Government ought to press for peace to Cyprus, and not weapons to Turkey, by coming forward with an initiative aimed at achieving an all-embracing settlement of the Cyprus problem.

VOICE OF AMERICA CRITICIZED FOR DISTORTING, SLANTING NEWS

LD220910Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2039 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington--TASS correspondent Yuriy Levchenko reports: Washington is stepping up the ideological war against the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries; the propagation of "the American way of life" to countries abroad. This is demonstrated by the hearings of the Subcommittee on International Operations of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which is devoted to the activities of the reorganized official U.S. propaganda apparatus, the International Communications Agency.

Speaking at hearings in his capacity as chief of the agency, Charles Bray, stressed that this organization which unites the former U.S. Information Agency and the State Department's Educational and Cultural Affairs Bureau, is called upon to create a political climate abroad which is favorable to the United States. A most important role in the "battle of ideas" is allocated to the U.S. propagandistic mouthpice Voice of America, which broadcasts in 36 languages, 800 hours per week, with the Soviet Union as its chief target.

The chief of the agency has demanded $413 million in the coming financial year for the organization's operations, which is $39.5 million more than this year's allocation. A total of $20 million to be used for new transmission stations for the Voice of America. Considerable sums are allotted to enlarging the radio programs to the Soviet Union, the socialist countries in Europe, as well as Africa and the Near East.

The national chairman of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Kenneth Blaylock, spoke at the hearings of the tendentious character of the Voice of America broadcasts, and their distortion of events to favor the United States.

"The constant interference" of the managers of the radio station in the work of commentators, he said, hinders "objective highlighting of problems, which constitutes the greatest interest for foreign listeners."

All analytical material on foreign political events," he stated, "must be presented for censorship by the special political department of the radio station. For political considerations, changes are often made to texts, distorting or even hushing up the facts." Apart from this, there is a total blackout on the broadcasting of some events. The radio station's managers give instructions on which events are to be covered, and which are to be hushed up. The order was given to control the work of correspondents, reporters and commentators of the radio station and the compilation of a "dossier" on the material prepared by them. Kenneth Blaylock stressed that while this practice continues there can be no question of "accurate, objective and complete" information.

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE VOTES FUNDS FOR FIGHTERS

LD212242Y Moscow TASS in English 2142 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 21 TASS--Men of the military-industrial complex in the U.S. Congress are clamouring for new allocations for military purposes. The House of Representatives Armed Services Commission today voted for an additional 320 million dollars to build 16 F-18 and F-14 fighter-bombers. As is known, the Pentagon budget planned for the next fiscal year has already attained a record high of 130 billion dollars.

DECLINE IN CARTER POPULARITY BLAMED ON INFLATION

LD240944Y Moscow TASS in English 0938 GMT 24 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 24, TASS--The popularity of U.S. President James Carter among the Americans is steadily on the decline. According to the data of the public opinion poll, held by the George Gallup Institute of Public Opinion, only 39 percent of those polled favourably appraised James Carter's activities as president, as compared with 50 percent a month ago.

The main cause of the President's declining popularity, the institute points out, is the Americans' profound dissatisfaction with the White House's inability to curb the soaring inflation in the country. They consider the spiralling of prices as the problem number one for the United States.

DECISION TO AUCTION GOLD NOT LIKELY TO HELP DOLLAR

LD211756Y Moscow TASS in English 1608 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

["Extraordinary Measure"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 21 TASS--Ivan Ablamov, TASS economic commentator, writes: The U.S. Department of the Treasury announced the forthcoming sale of gold at international monthly auctions for the purposes of supporting the dollar. The first such auction is scheduled for May 23. The proceeds from the sale of the yellow metal will be used for raising part of the 'surplus' dollars abroad.

The U.S. Treasury is, must be, hard pressed indeed if it has to hold gold auctions. Although the USA does state its striving to 'demonetise' gold, it up to now held back its gold reserves until emergency circumstances. And such circumstances, judging from everything, have come about.

The U.S. dollar is in a fever. Its rate now goes somewhat upward, now plunges down. In these conditions, Japan and West European states are firmly pressing for the United States to take effective measures to stabilize its currency. The matter went to such a length that at the recent session of the European communities in Copenhagen, the Common Market countries discussed the question of replacing the dollar with some other monetary unit as main reserve currency of the capitalist world. Partners of the USR see that the depreciation of the dollar raises the competitive power of U.S. commodities and undermines the partners' positions on the world market. The decline in the rate of the dollar whips up inflation and aggravates the problems of the economic slump in Western countries.

The gold auctions, to all appearances, will enable the USA to somehow patch up some breaches in their relations with the allies. But will this measure prove effective in the main thing: the treatment of the ailments of the dollar?

Authoritative observers express serious doubt on this score. Firstly, the proceeds from the sale of gold abroad will be far from sufficing to offset the U.S. huge trade balance deficit, which last year exceeded thirty billion dollars and again bounced up this year. Secondly, gold auctions will not weaken the problems of inflation and slump in Western states. Besides, the expected sale of the yellow metal at the planned six auctions will amount to slightly more than 300 million dollars. This is a drop in the ocean as compared with 500-600 billion dollars "wandering" outside the United States. If one imagines that those dollars are suddenly produced for payment in the USA, no gold currency reserves of Washington will suffice to pay them off. Even the organizers of the gold auction admit that the actions will be of psychological rather than practical importance.

CARTER ENERGY PROGRAM UNADOPTED AFTER YEAR'S WRANGLING

ID211340Y Moscow TASS in English 1237 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 21 TASS--TASS correspondent Vitaly Gan reports: The American administration has marked with "deep disappointment" the anniversary of the programme to overcome the energy difficulties submitted for the consideration of the Congress one year ago.

This complex programme provides for the lessening of U.S. dependence on petroleum imports by increasing oil and natural gas production within the country, and also by introducing restrictions on fuel consumption. According to official statistics, 48 per cent of the U.S. petroleum requirements are covered by import.

Last year the House of Representatives succumbed to the pressure of the administration and approved the energy program, leaving practically all its basic provisions unchanged. However, discussion of these proposals in the Senate ended in the defeat of the White House. The main "stumbling block" was the question of prices on natural gas. Although the government agreed to raise the "ceiling" of prices, it appeared insufficient to the placemen of the oil monopolies and they torpedoed the program.

Marking the "jubilee", President James Carter made a special statement in the White House on Thursday, in which he again stressed the acute need of adopting the national energy program.

According to Carter, the United States imported about 45,000 million dollars worth of oil during the past few months. He noted that as a result of this the deficit of American foreign trade reached the record level of 30,000 million dollars, the exchange rate of the dollar dropped, problems of inflation and unemployment became more acute.

The President stressed that delays in this matter were impermissible and urged the Congress to adopt the energy program.

The legislators, however, do not show particular eagerness to meet the calls of the White House, the program is still subject to backstage wrangling and political manoeuvring. As noted by the press, the powerful petroleum lobby deliberately drags out the discussion of the program, expecting thereby to ensure even bigger profits.

CIA'S TURNER ENCOURAGES JOURNALISTS' ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES

LD211304Y Moscow TASS in English 1240 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 21, TASS--TASS correspondent Vitaliy Gan reports: The CIA leadership is striving to serve for itself the right of using American and foreign pressmen for spying and subversive activity against other states. This is the meaning on the statement made by the CIA Director Admiral Stansfield Turner in the House Intelligence Committee.

As earlier reported, more than 400 American pressmen have discharged secret CIA missions over the past twenty-five years. They included noted correspondents and analysts of newspapers, magazines, television companies, directors and editors of leading publications and news services. All in all, over 800 press, radio and television organs were drawn into this unseemly activity. The pressmen, linked with the CIA, collected strategic information, played the role of "contact men," disseminated deliberately false news. Following the noisy scandal that broke out after these revelations, the CIA was compelled to prohibit formally the use of pressmen in spying operations. It was learned shortly, however, that this ban was intended only to quieten down the indignant public.

Addressing the committee, the CIA chief actually confirmed that it was a matter of changing tactics and not of stopping cooperation with mass information media of the United States. He said the CIA deemed "absolutely necessary" to give the journalists an opportunity to "render patriotic services voluntarily," in other words to engage in the collection of intelligence information. Furthermore, agents of the CIA are allowed, with the approval of Turner himself, to train this or that pressman specially for the purpose of discharging some concrete mission. The CIA director openly stated that any restriction of the agency's contacts with pressmen would seriously harm its ability to collect intelligence data on other countries.

In the meantime, many honest American pressmen are striving for a complete and effective ban on CIA contacts with the information media. As stressed by Stewart Lurie, and the noted American pressman, the use of American journalists by the CIA turns into a mockery the claim that the press is "independent" in the United States.

NEW FBI DIRECTOR EXPECTED TO FOLLOW IN HOOVER'S FOOTSTEPS

LD200949Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 18 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[V. Biryukov commentary: "FBI Tyranny Again"]

[Text] Surveillance of Americans, political assassinations, and the persecution of progressives--for many years all these acts of tyranny and illegality on the part of the FBI have provoked U.S. public indignation. The beginning of the activity of William Webster, former Federal Appeals Court Judge in St Louis, Missouri, who was recently appointed FBI director, has shown most obviously that no changes "for the better" can be anticipated.

Webster declared that his department is hurriedly drawing up "extraordinary programs for combating political terrorism." A very timely measure, it would seem, considering the raging crime in the United States. However, the main point in the statement was not concern for the safety of his fellow countrymen. It emerges that these programs include the compilation of numerous dossiers on "potential terrorists". Again, as in the past, most any American, if the FBI so desires, can become a victim of unlawful actions: He can be subjected to bugging and surveillance, and can become a victim of various provocations.

The FBI has always used some plausible pretext to be able to flout the legitimate rights of U.S. citizens. The new "secret police" programs are merely the latest maneuver to divert Americans' attention from this indisputable fact.

The FBI director does not conceal his racist views. Addressing the Senate Judiciary Committee, he admitted that for many years he has been a member of "whites only" clubs in St. Louis. "I intend to continue as a member of these," Webster declared.

Americans are also uneasy over Webster's statement that his predecessor, J. Edgar Hoover, was an "outstanding FBI director." In the U.S., Hoover's name is a symbol of tyranny, violation of legality and the crudest flouting of the civil rights and liberties of the country's population. Judging from everything, Webster's appointment is designed to fully preserve continuity in this matter.

U.S. STAND ON BRAZINSKAS ENCOURAGES WORLD TERRORISM

LD211046Y Moscow TASS in English 1025 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 21, TASS--The ruling circles of the United States, which publicly condemn international terrorism and call for international cooperation to put an end to it, are saving from deserved punishment the Brazinskas (father and son) aerial pirates, who committed eight years ago a grave crime in the territory of the Soviet Union. Bills have been submitted to the Senate and House of Represenatives of the American Congress granting the criminals permanent asylum in the United States. It is common knowledge that in October 1970 the Brazinskas bandits seized at gunpoint a Soviet AN-24 passenger aircraft and forced the crew to land it in Turkish territory. During this terroristic act they killed a stewardess and wounded the pilot and navigator, thereby endangering the lives of the passengers on board. Since August 1976 the Brazinskas father and son are escaping justice in the United States with the open connivance of the authorities, which have actually assumed patronage over them. Faced with protests of the Soviet Union and of public opinion, the U.S. State Department was compelled, after long dealys, to refuse the bandits "political asylum" admitting that they had committed a grave crime, but the question of extraditing the criminals was not even raised by them.

As a result of unseemly manoeuvres of the American authorites, this flagrant act of international terrorism has been reduced to a minor violation of the emigration law, punishable by mere expulsion from the United States. The high-placed patrons of the bandits wish, ho ever, to relieve the Brazinskas pair even of this "inconvenience". The bills submitted in the Congress by Senator Peter Domenici and member of the House of Representatives Robert Dornan, regardless of the outcome of the Brazinskas case in court, grants them the status of "lawful emigrants". This means that after the expiration of five years, the murderers will be able to apply for full American citizenship. In violation of the Hague convention, qualifying aerial priacy as a grave crime, entitling those involved to heavy punishment, the U.S. authorities are doing everything to save the two terrorists from deserved punishment. This stand actually means open encouragement of international terrorism.

CHINESE ASSESS MAOISM AS ALIEN TO MARXISM, PROLETARIAT

LD211257Y Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Apr 78 p 9 LD

[S. Barkov article: "China Today: 'This Is Only a Beginning'"]

[Text] "Remembrance of acestors" in early April is an old Chinese tradition. But for the third time now Remembrance Day has become a day of political protest by large sections of the Chinese population against the Maoist regime in China.

Two years ago, on 5-6 April 1976, tens of thousands of inhabitants of Peking stated openly for the first time, in Peking central square by the monument to heroes of the revolution, that they want "genuine Marxism-Leninism" and "for the sake of genuine Marxism-Leninism we are not afraid to shed blood and give our lives." A poem disseminated at the time said:

China is not what it was before,
Gone forever into the past is the feudal society
of Ch'in Shih Huang.

Chin Shih Huang, PEOPLES' DAILY admitted, actually represented Mao Tse-tung. Then, thousands of people were arrested and subjected to repressions.

The events in Peking were not an isolated episode. In other Chinese cities anti-Maoist people's demonstrations also occurred, accompanied by bloodshed.

The CCP Central Committee Politburo, which met as soon as the capital had been "put in order," described the events in Tienanmen Square as a "counterrevolutionary political incident" which justified the use of repressive measures. It is appropriate to recall that at that Politburo session Teng Hsiao-ping was removed from all posts on Mao Tse-tung's suggestion, while Hua Kuo-feng was appointed premier of the State Council and received the title of "first deputy" to Chairman Mao.

The present Peking leaders tried to attribute the carnage in Tienanmen Square to the "gang of four," but as recent events testify, it is difficult to deceive the people. Hundreds of Pekingese, predominantly young people, came to the monument to the heroes of the revolution. They laid wreaths, read wall posters, recited verses and entire poems. Popular slogans were shouted from the crowd.

What are all the posters and slogans about?

Primarily, they reflect assessments of Mao Tse-tung and his regime. Any statements supporting the "ideas" and policy of Mao Tse-tung were completely absent from the leaflets and inscriptions on the wreaths. This is particularly significant since the recent National People's Congress [NPC] and the adoption of the new PRC Constitution took place under the slogan of loyalty to the "ideas of Mao" and his policy.

The wall posters that foreign journalists managed to see (this was a chance affair, since the "fallacious" posters naturally appeared for only a short time) or whose content became known to them through other people proposed demands for "the holding of a thorough investigation of the real nature of the events of 5 April 1976 and the publication of its results in the press."

This would seem to conform with official appeals to complete the investigation of the "four's" evil deeds. However, such investigations have not been held. The reason is clear: Many of those who are now in power persecuted those who participated in the 5 April demonstration.

One of the posters posed the question clearly: "Who headed the central government at that time? Who led the organs of the dictatorship in our country?" It is well-known that this poster refers primarily to Hua Kuo-feng, Chen Hsi-lien, and Wu Te. The posters invariably call Wu Te, the "butcher of Tienanmen." Hua Kuo-feng, who was then appointed head of government, headed the public security troops; Chen Hsi-lien, commander of the Peking Military District, issued the "cruel orders" (as proclaimed in one poster) to the troops; and Wu Te, as political commissar of the Peking troops and mayor of Peking, issued similar instructions. They all retain their posts.

Stern criticism is being directed at the entire Chinese political structure since the so-called "great victory" over the "gang of four" and since the "successful" NPC session and adoption of the new Constitution. As Western correspondents note, all this causes serious concern in the Chinese leaders, particularly those subjected to criticism.

"Have the people really won", is the question posed on one wall poster which appeared 8 April in Chanantse, a main street in Peking. "Today's reality is such that the masses are still subjected to persecution. It looks like our revolution has collapsed." Recalling the "terrible tortures" attributed to the "gang of four" after its overthrow, the author of another wall poster asks: "But are things better today? No."

Despite propaganda efforts to prove that "democracy has been restored" in China since the overthrow of the "fascist rule of the four," working people do not see any kind of change. Just a month after the NPC session, a FRANCE PRESSE correspondent notes, a wall poster hung near Chunghanhai, the residence of the top Chinese leaders, demanded "genuine representation of the people."

One wall poster headed "holding down the lid will not work out" states that the capital's leadership still includes "troublemakers" and "lid-holders." Its authors, who use the pseudonym "Min Yi" (opinion of the people), ask "why were the people who criticized Wu Te in January 1977 released (from torture chambers) in August, during the 11th CCP Congress? Why are arrests of people still struggling against the 'four' continuing at this time?"

The tactics of all kinds of "lid-holders" from the Chinese leadership are described as follows:

"They criticize small things but not large things, they criticize the depths but not the heights, they criticize far but not near, they criticize the dead but not the living, they resort to 'holding down the lid.'"

This applies to the "main leadership of the Peking City Committee," one wall poster frankly points out.

Even considering that the wall posters are possibly inspired by an influential group, which testifies to the intense struggle within the Chinese leadership, it is clear that not certain individuals, but the entire Maoist course are in question.

All this indicates that, despite the many years of ideological disorientation of the population and the continuing attempts to disguise Maoism as Marxism, an increasing number of Chinese are beginning to realize that Maoist ideology and policy, however they are adjusted, are alien to the aspirations of the people.

Currently, the wall posters assure "the participants in the 5 April demonstration that their struggle is not ended, that this is only the beginning."

NEDELYA'S ANALYSIS OF PRC'S 'HEGEMONISTIC' POLICY CITED

LD212152Y Moscow TASS in English 2121 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

["Peking's Course Is a Threat to the Cause of Peace"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 22, TASS--"China's hegemonistic foreign policy course, while creating seats of conflict and discord, sowing enmity and hatred among peoples, is intended ultimately to draw the world into a world war from which China could profit. This openly incendiary course is serious threat to the cause of peace and security of peoples, writes the Soviet weekly NEDELYA.

Analysing the Chinese leadership's course after Mao, the weekly arrives at the conclusion that Peking "intends to go further in pursuing its antisocialist, anti-Soviet, hegemonistic course, and preparation for war is regarded by it as a top-priority and long-term task."

"Peking's activities in the foreign policy arena are embued with the striving to frustrate any initiative directed at stopping the material preparations for war," the article notes. The weekly recalls that Peking, which has not signed a single international agreement aiming at curbing the arms race, strongly resists all initiatives in this field proposed from the rostrum of the United Nations Organisation. For instance, at the latest 32nd session of the General Assembly, the Peking representatives did not support even one of the more than 20 resolutions on disarmament approved by the overwhelming majority of member-states. Peking did not support the establishment of the preparatory committee for the convocation of a special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament and openly demonstrates its bluntly negative attitude to this forum.

"Militarism," the weekly continues, "has its 'logic', and this 'logic' inevitably was to have brought Peking and actually did bring it to praising the neutron bomb. The Chinese upper crust does not conceal that it would like to lay its hands on the neutron bomb and openly praises those Western 'hawks' which demand the immediate mass production of this barbarous weapon and its deployment in Western Europe."

"The great-power hegemonistic essence of Peking's policy is not changed by the alterations of some aspects of the domestic political course that the Chinese leadership is compelled to make lately, or by its rejection of the more odious and compromised aspects of Maoist practice," the weekly points out.

"China's foreign policy, just as its military potential, serve the aims of ensuring China the positions of a leading power capable of actively resisting those changes that the Peking leadership will consider undesirable from the viewpoint of its current interests or plans for the future. The Chinese leaders regard as advantageous only such changes that bring closer a universal conflict during, which China, as was said by Mao, could take the position of "a wise monkey sitting on a hill and watching the tigers fight in the valley", the weekly stresses.

LOCAL, ETHNIC DISCORD MEETS INCREASING REPRESSION

LD2223152 Moscow TASS in English 2222 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

["Illusory 'Stabilization'"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 23, TASS--TASS commentator Aleksey Petrov writes: As foreign correspondents report from China, the events of the recent weeks indicate that the National People's Congress session which took place in February-March, in no way led, in spite of the declarations proclaimed at it, to achieving "unity and cohesion" in Chinese society, and in the present leading group of Peking.

Questions of a purge and a so-called "regulation of leading echelons" on the plea of bringing to light their attitude towards the "four" were again put to the fore in the internal political struggle.

This manifested itself most strikingly in connection with [the] second anniversary of the "April events" of 1976. As is known, those events were a widescale anti-Maoist action of the masses in Tienanmen Square in Peking, action which was made use of by the conflicting alignments inside China's leading group in the interests of factional struggle and mutual settling of scores. The second removal of Teng Hsiao-ping from all the posts, and the promotion of Hua Kuo-feng to the first roles in the Chinese leadership were one of the results of those events. The changes were effected on Mao Tse-tung's proposal.

In April of the current year, numerous tatzupao again appeared in Peking. The tatzupao, along with a positive appraisal of the April events, contained attacks against a number of persons who are among the present Chinese leadership, including attacks against Wu Te, the first secretary of the party committee, chairman of the Peking City Committee as a whole. Some tatzupao even named Wu Te a "counterrevolutionary", and the party city committee was accused of "pressing the lid down", using power to resist a further exposure of "supporters of the four".

Noteworthy is the fact that attacks on Wu Te were resumed after he was reelected to the posts of the deputy chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and the chairman of the Peking Revolutionary Committee at the session of the National People's Congress and the People's Congress of Peking. It was reported that the reelection was effected under an energetic pressure by Hua Kuo-feng who had to overcome criticism levelled at Wu Te who was accused of "suppressing the masses" in the period of the April 1976 events.

Some foreign experts on China view the new round of criticism levelled at Wu Te as an attempt by the group of "old cadres"--named among them is also Teng Hsiao-ping--to start a revision of the leading posts' distribution effected at the National People's Congress session. Wu Te and his group are known to have come to power as a result of the "Cultural Revolution".

A certain discordance in the Chinese press articles on matters of struggle "for eradication of the influence of the four" is the manifestation of the continuing internal political struggle.

Numerous articles--Peking is fond of labelling--contain criticism of so-called "perturbators", "time-services", "people-hyenas", "squeerers"--those who cooperated with or had views similar to those of the "system of the four" and derived benefit personally for themselves but retained their position up to now, were not "subjected to investigation" and try to hamper the continuation and deepening of the struggle against the "four".

Published lately have been a whole number of materials devoted to the situation in those provinces where top party leaders were replaced in the course of last year (Heilungkiang, Kirin, Anhwei, Kansu, Tsinghai). Those materials intensively propound the idea that the removal of the former leaders, who are qualified as "accomplices of the four", had a decisive effect on the normalisation of the general situation in those provices.

At the same time, however, there appeared articles of a different tone. Thus, a keynote article of the April issue of the journal RED FLAG, reprinted by the newspaper PEOPLES' DAILY, condemns the policy of "ruthless blows" at the cadres, and contains a call to rely mainly on educative methods in the work among them, and give an opportunity and time to reform even to those cadres who made errors, including those who are reckoned among adherents of the "four".

The appearance in the Peking press of the calls to concentrate attention on matters of "strengthening order" is regarded as the tendency of that Chinese leadership group which is interested in not boosting the campaign of struggle against the supporters of the "four". Local party and administrative cadres who reportedly committed abuses of power are subjected to criticism in such kind of materials.

Notice was also taken of the promulgation of the decision of the Military Council of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CCP) on "strengthening organisation and discipline" in the Chinese Army. The decision prescribes to wage a resolute struggle against those who resist the Central Committee and the Military Council of the CCP Central Committee, against those who practise "parochialism" and "sectarianism", "weave conspiracies and intrigues."

The foreign press also reported facts of serious unrest among national minorities of China. Recently in Aksu area in the Sinkiang-Uigur Autonomous Region (SUAR) there took place an action of local population against the authorities. The Peking leadership issued an order on "resolute suppression on the riot". As is reported, those events were a reaction to the Chinese authorities' reprisals against cadre workers and persons of local nationalities for participation in the liberation struggle against national oppression in the period [of] Chiang Kai-Shek's dominance in China. The accusation of "undermining the national policy of CCP" was also levelled against candidate member of the political bureau of the CCP Central Committee Saifudin, an Uigur, who was recently relieved of the post of the first secretary of the party committee and chairman of the SUAR Revolutionary Committee. Those posts in Sinkiang were filled by a figure of Chinese nationality.

Behind the fragility of the compromise between factions in Peking's leading group, compromise achieved as a result of the National People's Congress session, behind the periodic flare-ups of contradictions of the internal political struggle in China there are ultimately deep economic and socio-political problems, and the increasingly manifest unsoundness of the attempts by the present leadership of China to solve them along the lines of keeping the main antisocialist, aggressive-chauvinist guidelines of Maoism.

PZPR POLITBURO APPROVAL OF GIEREK MOSCOW VISIT NOTED

LD211223Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Text] Warsaw, 19 April TASS--The PZPR Central Committee Politburo was briefed today on the talks between E. Gierek, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, and L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The PZPR Central Committee Politburo fully approved the results of the meeting, stressing that they are of great significance for the further all-round development of fraternal collaboration between the PZPR and the CPSU and the deepening of both people's friendship. Each meeting between the leaders of the fraternal parties, the PZPR Central Committee Politburo resolution says, gives an important stimulus to the expansion of mutually advantageous economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries. This cooperation is a substantial factor in Poland's socioeconomic development, answers the vital interests of the two states, and serves their peoples well.

The Moscow meeting, the PZPR Central Committee Politburo noted, was also an expression of the close collaboration between Poland and the USSR in the formation and implementation of the socialist countries' coordinated policy aimed at consolidating detente, ending the arms race, disarmament, and guaranteeing all peoples the right to live in conditions of peace.

GROMYKO LEAVES MOSCOW FOR SOFIA WARSAW PACT MEETING

LD240726Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0714 GMT 24 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow--Andrey Gromyko, Politburo member of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR foreign minister, today left Moscow for Sofia. He will take part in a session of the committee of foreign ministers of the Warsaw Pact states.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0900 GMT on 24 April adds that Gromyko "was seen off at the airport by Pelshe, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials. Also among those seeing him off was Marinov, Bulgarian charge d'affaires in the USSR."]

MOSCOW TALKS INVOLVING CPCZ'S BENO, KAPITONOV REPORTED

LD211233Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "Meeting at the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] M. Beno, secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, was in the Soviet Union from 17 through 19 April at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

During his stay in our country M. Beno had meetings and talks in the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Section and in the Moscow Gorkom.

Comrade M. Beno was received by CPSU Central Committee Secretary I.V. Kapitonov. He was briefed about the work being done in the country to implement the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and put into practice the propositions and tasks put forward by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev in the sphere of party building. [paragraph continues]

For his part M. Benc gave an account of the main directions of the CPCZ's Party Organizational work since its 15th congress. Taking part in the conversations were N.A. Petrovichev, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Section; and J. Javelka, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and Czechoslovak ambassador to the USSR.

The meetings took place in a warm, comradely atmosphere.

PRAGUE MEETING OF CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONAL FRONT HELD

LD211511Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 78 p 5 LD

[Text] Prague, 18 April TASS--The Czechoslovak National Front Central Committee Plenum which opened here today is devoted to the fulfillment of the decisions of the 15th CPCZ Congress concerning the activity of the National Front and its tasks. It is being conducted under the leadership of Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, president of Czechoslovakia and chairman of the National Front Central Committee.

J. Polednik, CPCZ Central Committee secretary, delivered the report to the plenum. He highly assessed the labor and political activity of the members of all the national front organizations--the workers, collectivized peasantry and intelligentsia--which was particularly manifest in connection with the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of Great October and the 30th anniversary of the February victory of the working people of Czechoslovakia.

During the celebrations of these portentous anniversaries, the speaker said, the high socialist awareness, patriotism and profound internationalism of the Czechoslovak people were manifested. The fact that these noble sentiments were primarily expressed in creative labor for the good of socialism attests to the people's profound understanding of the point and aims of the CPCZ's policies.

From the vantage point of the last 10 years, the secretary of the CPCZ stressed further, we are deeply aware of the internationalist help given to our motherland by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in August 1968. We highly assess this help as an act of international solidarity which served the interests both of the Czechoslovak working people and the common interests of the working class of the socialist community as well as the class interests of the world communist movement.

Our Communist Party, the keynote speaker stated further, fully shares and supports and foreign policy line elaborated by the 25th CPSU Congress. The Czechoslovak National Front approves the foreign policy activity of the CPCZ and supports the Soviet Union's initiatives since they are aimed at consolidating peace, security and cooperation. The Czechoslovak National Front ardently welcomes the unfailing efforts in the struggle for peace of L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

SPANISH CP CONGRESS CONTINUES DELIBERATIONS

Democratic Unity Discussed

LD221347Y Moscow in Spanish to Spain 2200 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] At today's session of the Ninth Congress of the Spanish Communist Party [PCE] the debate on the Central Committee's report continued. Many speakers referred to the policy of concentration of the country's democratic forces proclaimed by the Communist Party, pointing to the correctness of this line in the present situation and indicating at the same time the need to make the methods of the party's action more precise in order to achieve successes in this line.

Caceres delegate Antonio (Tejero) said that in pursuing the policy of concentration the Communist Party should determine precisely which forces could go to swell the broad alliance of democrats and which forces are blocking and will continue to block at all costs the unity of the progressives for agreeing to and developing democratic reforms in Spain. For this reason Antonio (Terjero) drew attention to the mass attacks being undertaken lately by the industrial bourgeoisie and their attempts to halt the process of change and even to turn the course of history back.

Toledo delegate Jorge Maria (Vilas Ropero) emphasized the need to improve the party's organizational work and the leadership given by the PCE grassroots organizations.

The representative from Badajoz emphasized that PCE deputies in parliament should speak not only for the interests of the provinces which elected them but for those of the party as a whole. Regions which still [word indistinct] communist parliamentarians should be able to count on the support in congress of any deputy elected from the Communist Party list. He also said that the party's task is to use all means to promote the peasant movement's unity and to provide active resistance to the control of rural workers which conservative forces are trying to achieve.

In the opinion of delegate Julian Ariza the report does not give a proper evaluation of the role played by workers commissions. (?He thinks) that the success achieved by this union in the recent elections is clear proof that the working masses are firmly behind the class trade unions, seeing them as the true defenders of their interests. The decision by nearly all the trade unions to jointly celebrate International Labor Day, the first of May, is a demonstration that [word indistinct] actions by various detachments of the workers movement are not only possible but also necessary, said Julian Ariza.

Cipriano Garcia, representing Catalonia, said that the Central Committee report gives a detailed rundown of the working class role at different stages in Spain's history, but it does not lay down a precise task for the working class at present. In the speaker's opinion the significance and mobilization of the working class and its mass actions in the struggle for the interests of the working people, for example in the fulfillment of the Moncloa Pact, must be stressed. In this connection Cipriano Garcia spoke of the importance of organizing the peasant movement, with consideration for the peculiarities of particular regions of the country.

Some delegates have proposed that the documents being approved by the party at the congress should give greater prominence to the line of strengthening contacts with the Spanish Socialist Workers Party and to unity between the communists and the socialists. It is characteristic that all the Madrid papers should in this connection highlight the following point: When the chairman at the congress announced the presence of the Spanish socialist delegation all the delegates gave them a standing welcome applauding wildly and chanting "unity, unity!"

As (Jorge Luis Mal), representatives of the PCE Madrid organization, said: The alliance between the Spanish communists and socialists is not only a problem of the present but one bearing on the future of the country's left wing forces. The Madrid delegate [words indistinct] criticized the report on balance for inadequate appraisal of the correlation of political forces in the country at the present stage, and for its vague assessment of international problems.

The Murcia representative (Agustin Sanchez) and the Cudad Real delegate (Jose Antonio Garcia Rubio) spoke of the need for congressional resolutions to reflect the contribution of the socialist countries to the development of the world process and their role in the struggle for peace among peoples.

The congress was greeted by Jorge Alonso on behalf of almost 2 million delegates to the workers commissions trade union conference.

The congress has begun to examine the theses of the Communist Party Central Committee.

Central Committee Report

LD212032Y Moscow TASS in English 1938 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Madrid, April 21 TASS--The discussion of the report of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Spain was ended today at the party's 9th congress. Representatives of various provincial party organizations indicated the need to envigorate the party's work in the trade union movement and stressed that precisely the Communist Party should be in the first ranks of those who are struggling for the interests of workers, peasants, office employees and other representatives of the working segments of the population, among those who defend their rights.

Just as on the first day of the congress some delegates noted that the Communist Party should promote a more clear-cut line in respect of Spain's joining of NATO, to carry out a campaign directed against the country's participation in the North Atlantic alliance.

The congress heard with much attention a speech by the general secretary of the Communist Party of the Land of Basques Roberto Lertcsundi. Noting that the fate of democracy in general in the country depends to a large extent on the development of events in the Basque Provinces, he said that the Communist Party of Spain should facilitate a stabilisation of the situation in the area, strive to prevent a social explosion which could jeopardise the young process of democratization. A policy of alliance of all democratic forces, he said, could be of much importance in this respect.

After the ending of the discussion of the Central Committee's report the delegates today started studying drafts of political theses and new rules of the party.

Delegates Comment

LD211035Y Moscow in Spanish to Spain 2200 GMT 20 Apr 78 LD

[Dispatch by PRAVDA Madrid correspondent Vladimir Chernyshev]

[Text] The delegates to the Ninth Congress of the Spanish Communist Party [PCE], which is being held in Madrid, continue to discuss the report of the Central Committee presented to the congress. The present situation in Spain and definition of PCE tasks in the transformation processes which are taking place in the country are at the center of the delegates' attention.

The delegates, in their speeches, fix attention on the need to strengthen the role of communists in the democratization of Spanish society, in the conduct of the struggle of the working class and all workers for peace, social progress and socialism.

The secretary general of the Communist Party of Asturias, Gerardo Iglesias, referred in his address to the Moncloa Pact as an important element for the country's way out of the economic crisis. The leader of the workers' commissions, Marcelino Camacho, spoke about the role of the working class in the current democratic transformations in the country. He called on the members of the party to contribute to the elevation of the class conscience of the workers and to the (?superior) cohesion of the workers.

The deputy for Andalucia, Rosario (Pedal), proposed the approval of a special resolution which demands from the government the adoption of urgent measures to solve the problem of unemployment. The delegation from Andalucia introduced a series of amendments to the Central Committee report, stressing that in this report the mistakes made by the party have not been properly analyzed.

Nicolas Sartorius devoted the main part of his speech to the analysis of the causes of the (?increase) of terror in the country, saying that terrorist acts, wherever they come from, play the game of reaction which uses extremist provocations to justify repression against democratic forces. Terror, Sartorius said, to the applause of those present, is an enemy of the working class. Referring to international problems, the delegates stress that it is necessary to express more clearly the attitude of the PCE in connection with the future entry of Spain to NATO, to resolutely demand the liquidation of U.S. military bases on Spanish territory and to express the PCE point of view on the neutron bomb.

The delegation of the CPSU to the congress is the focus of great attention by the delegates. The PCE congress continues its work.

Afanasyev's Comments

LD221845Y Belgrade TANJUG in English 1612 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Madrid, April 22, (TANJUG)--The head of the Soviet Communist Party delegation to the 9th Congress of the Spanish Communist Party, member of the Central Committee of the CPSU and director of PRAVDA Viktor Afanasyev stated in an interview to the daily INFORMACIONES of Madrid that "Eurocommunism does not exist".

The interview, which attracted attention among observers in Madrid, appeared on the day the Spanish Communist Party was adopting a new definition of the party from which the old formula "Marxist-Leninist" was dropped.

The same day, in another interview, to the daily EL PAIS, Afanasyev said: "The leadership of the Communist Party of Spain has, as is fasionable today, its own model of socialism". "Although fashionable, this term", says Afanasyev, "can only be used in the spheres of cybernetics and high fashions. We, Soviet communists, are ready to wait and see what this Spanish model of socialism will be, and, if good, nothing will prevent us from taking something useful from it".

In the interview to INFORMACIONES Afanasyev noted the existence of "certain problems and differences" between the two parties, but said that "despite this, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union wants these relations to strengthen because we wish to be, and we consider ourselves as the best friends of Spanish communists".

PRAVDA Editor Interviewed

For a Madrid Radio report on the 21 April INFORMACIONES interview with Viktor Afanasyev, chief editor of PRAVDA and head of the Soviet delegation to the Ninth Congress of the Spanish Communist Party, see the Spain section of the 24 April Western Europe DAILY REPORT.

Workers Commissions Proposals

LD231104Y Moscow in Spanish to Spain 2200 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

[PRAVDA correspondent reports from Madrid]

[Text] In yesterday's evening session, the delegates to the Ninth Congress of the Spanish Communist Party [PCE], which is being held in Madrid, ended their debates on the political theses of the PCE Central Committee. The nature of the present process of changes which are taking place in the country are being determined. The party's policy in different areas of domestic life, the ways and means of the PCE's struggle for democratization and socialism, the role of the trade unions, of the youth and women's movements in the present stage, and the PCE's foreign policy line determine the nature of the party.

The theses were previously analyzed in the meetings of the congress' workers commissions, which took into account the amendments and proposals raised by the communists in the meetings prior to the congress, in the grass roots organizations of the party, and in the PCE regional, provincial and area conferences. The commissions introduced many important changes to the Central Committee theses. New formulas were proposed for a whole series of postulates. All the theses with the amendments presented by the commissions were approved by a majority of votes.

The draft for the new statute of the party was discussed during this morning's session.

Congress Ends, Officials Elected

LD230740Y Moscow TASS in English 0718 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Madrid, April 23, TASS--The Ninth Congress of the Communist Party of Spain [PCE] has ended here.

On the last day of the congress, the delegates approved the new regulations of the Communist Party and the report of the Central Committee of the PCE.

The Central Committee of the PCE and other leading bodies of the party were elected.

Dolores Ibarruri was reelected the chairman of the PCE and Santiago Carrillo the general secretary.

MORO KIDNAPERS DISCREDITING ITALIAN COMMUNISTS

LD211900Y Moscow TASS in English 1830 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

["Under an Assumed Name"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 21 TASS--TASS news analyst Anatoliy Krasikov writes:

The internal tension in Italy aggravated in connection with the kidnap of chairman of the National Council of the ruling Christian-Democratic Party Aldo Moro has reached the highest point in months and even years.

On Friday, April 21, all the Italian newspapers published "communique number seven" by the kidnappers--members of the organization naming itself "Red Brigades". It was an ultimatum to the authorities refuting earlier reports to the effect that Aldo Moro had already been killed. The terrorists say that this will take place, if their demands are not met till Saturday.

But what sort of demands are these? "We are fighting for the freedom of the proletariat and an essential part of our programme is freedom for imprisoned communists" the authors of the communique claim adding: "The release of captive Aldo Moro can be examined only in answer to the release of jailed communists".

Thus, according to the authors of the "communique", they are communists and are ready to guarantee the gaining of "freedom" by the proletariat in the course of two days. Enough for the Italian state to display the same readiness to pay the ransom for the kidnapped political leader.

It is hard to believe that the organizers of this act of terrorism seriously hope that they will be able to deceive wide sections of Italian public. It is clear to any person, who has at least some knowledge of politics in that country, that they are as a matter of fact the most rapid enemies of the Italian Communist Party.

And still we are witnessing a masquerade, an attempt to discredit communists and to link their name with the deliberately criminal action.

Who and why should need it? One cannot help recalling in this connection the commonly known instances: the sham "letter of the communist international" and the setting of fire to the Reichstag. Reaction always banked on deceiving the masses in an attempt to camouflage its real political objectives. It did so yeaterday and continues doing today.

The Italian press has recently published a number of stories testifying to the stepped up activity of subversive services of the major NATO powers, which are obviously alarmed by the prospect of the communists incorporated into the Italian Government. One shall not forget that NATO military bases are stationed in that country and warships flying the stars and stripes aften drop anchor near its shores.

It became known from the interview given the other day to the PANORAMA weekly by chairman of the Defence Commission of the Italian Parliament F. Accame about this stationing in the country's territory of the Marines, with the aim, as the weekly said, of "joining in action as soon as the events take an unfavourable turn for Washington."

But a pretext is, of course, necessary for such interference that would justify it if not in the eyes of the Italians then at least in the eyes of its own citizens, who are comparatively little informed about the real state of things in Italy. And here the fable about "communist terrorists" may play a certain propaganda role. The more so, that anyone expressing disagreement with the present state of things is described as communists in some places in the West.

There is, however, no doubt that irrespective of the outcome of Aldo Moro's personal drama, the new act of sabotage by the reaction, which is ready to perpetrate a crime in the name of anti-communism against one of the most prominent political figures of Italy, an advocate of cooperation between Communists and Christian Democrats, will suffer a failure.

FRG'S GENSCHER CITES SIGNIFICANCE OF BREZHNEV VISIT

LD231015Y Moscow TASS in English 0917 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, April 23, TASS--TASS correspondents Aleksey Grigoryev and Oleg Shirokov report: "The FRG Government attaches extremely great importance to the coming visit of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev to Bonn. We regard this visit as an opportunity to give a new positive impetus to the development of relations between the two countries, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the FRG minister for foreign affairs, said at a meeting with a group of Soviet journalists in Bonn.

We regard detente as a prolonged process, he said. Therefore, we see in the coming visit of the Soviet party and state leader an opportunity to emphasize again our readiness for expanding our relations in all spheres--in the political, economic and cultural ones. These bilateral relations are of long-term nature and are beneficial, above all, in the sphere of economy. But in the sphere of policy, too, we understand each other better now, for mutual understanding between us increased over the past period.

"Relations between the two countries developed will on the basis of the Moscow treaty and exerted very favourable influence on the continuation of the policy of detente in Europe, the FRG minister for foreign affairs said. We are aware, with all responsibility of the importance that the level of our relations has for the policy of detente as a whole".

When asked what is the attitude of the FRG population to the coming summit talks, Hans-Dietrich Genscher said that this attitude is clearly favourable. There are no doubts that the citizens of our country wish the widening of relations with the Soviet Union, for there is no sane alternative to the policy of detente, he stressed.

Leonid Brezhnev's coming visit to Bonn is received favourably by the FRG population also for the reason that it attests to the intention of the governments of both countries to continue advancing along the road that was embarked upon, the minister stressed.

The FRG Government wishes to conduct the coming talks in a constructive spirit. I would like to emphasize again that we wish that a new positive impetus be given, as a result of the coming summit meeting, to our bilateral relations and the entire process of detente, Hans-Dietrich Genscher said in conclusion.

FRG SPOKESMAN ON DISCUSSION TOPICS DURING BREZHNEV VISIT

For Stuttgart Radio interview with FRG Government Spokesman Klaus Boelling in Bonn on Brezhnev's state visit to begin on 4 May and the topics that will be discussed with Chancellor Schmidt, see the Federal Republic of Germany section of the 24 April Western Europe DAILY REPORT.

ATHERTON'S ARRIVAL SIGNALS NEW EFFORTS AT PEACE PACT

LD2321547 Moscow TASS in English 1700 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, April 23, TASS--American diplomats have resumed "shuttle operations" between the USA, Egypt and Israel. Following a brief visit to Cairo by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, U.S. Ambassador at Large Alfred Atherton arrived in Cairo where he met with the A.R.E. foreign minister. He will also have talks with President as-Sadat. Commentators note that the talks are aimed at routine attempts by the U.S.A. to pull Egyptian-Israeli separate negotiations out of the blind alley and press for new Egyptian concessions towards a Middle East settlement. Appearing on Israel television, Israel's Foreign Minister Dayan said he intended within the week to take "new proposals" to the USA for a Middle East settlement and stressed that the "proposals of the Israeli Government do not contain any clause on the withdrawal of Israeli troops from occupied territories."

ISRAEL TO SET UP SECRET LAND PURCHASE COMPANY ON WEST BANK

LD2409427 Moscow TASS in English 0702 GMT 24 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Amman, April 24, TASS--It became known here that the Israeli Government intends to set up a secret company for purchasing land plots on the captured West Bank of the Jordan River.

The organisation is to function under the aegis of the Israeli Agriculture Ministry headed by A. Sharon, notorious for his extremist views. His programme for the construction of militarised settlements in the captured Arab lands has touched off protests among progressive public all over the world.

AS-SADAT'S 'PERCENTAGE GAME' DAMAGING ARAB UNITY

LD2110117 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Apr 78 p 9 LD

[M. Maksimov article: "Percentage Mania"]

[Text] Reports have already covered President as-Sadat's unusual passion for manipulating percentages. More than a year ago he uttered a phrase in one of his numerous interviews, which has already become sacred. "In this game," As-Sadat said, "the United States holds 99 percent of the cards." In other words, the Egyptian leader considered that the key to the solution of the Near East problem is with the Americans. This arithmetic left only one percent in the "game", in which human lives and peoples' destinies are at stake, to the direct participants in the conflict.

At the time of As-Sadat's comment, 99 percent might have been seen as a desire to flatter the foreign patrons. Now the accountant As-Sadat has produced new calculations which indicated that the United States now holds 99.9 percent of the cards. The president said this quite seriously in his latest interview with the Egyptian journal OCTOBER.

Thus, in the last year, which has brought the Near East even further away from peace, Washington's share in the Near East game has, according to As-Sadat, increased by 0.9 percent, thereby leaving the remaining interested parties virtually no hope. It is true that as-Sadat's objectives in undertaking his "purely independent" trip to Jerusalem are unclear. For having only 0.1 percent meant it was only possible to bluff, which is exactly what the separate talks between Egypt and Israel demonstrated. Today, the results of this game are well known. The aggressor seized and even today occupies the southern part of Lebanon with the tacit agreement of its partner in the separate deal.

President as-Sadat's new calculations indicate again that he lacks faith in the strength of Arab unity and betrays the interests of the anti-imperialist struggle.

The 0.9 percent which he has now added to the U.S. share of the game are the American military bases on Sinai, planned by the Pentagon. To all indications, their existence will be approved in Tel Aviv and Cairo. The 0.9 percent is the Israeli intervention against Lebanon with the help of weapons and cluster bombs made in the United States and tested in Vietnam, which Israeli aircraft dropped on Lebanese territory. Despite the flagrant violation of American laws on trading in weapons, Washington only lightly rebuked the murderers of Arab civilians.

The 0.9 percent is the summit meeting of the three participants in the game which is being arranged. Political observers consider that abroad, where the meeting will take place, the United States and Israel will finally be able to free Egypt's hands after which As-Sadat will have to adopt Begin's "peace plan."

In the afore-mentioned interview with the journal OCTOBER, As-Sadat said: "The heart of Israel is beating in the United States." Slightly paraphrasing these words it is possible to say without exaggeration that the pulse of the present Egyptian leadership can also be distinctly heard there.

ISRAELIS TERRORIZE IN RESPONSE TO WITHDRAWAL DEMANDS

LD221834Y Moscow TASS in English 1841 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, April 22, TASS--The Israeli troops are continuing terror and violence against the local population in the occupied south of Lebanon. According to reports reaching here, Israeli troops are intensifying repressive measures against those who demand immediate withdrawal of the occupation troops from South Lebanese territories, are razing to the ground the empty houses of refugees and destroy agricultural crops. Such South Lebanese settlement as Ibil as-Saqy, Al-Khiyam, Ghanduriyih and others have turned into ruins. According to preliminary estimates, the damage inflicted by the Israeli aggression upon South Lebanese areas exceeds 500 million dollars. If indirect losses for the country as a result of the occupation of this major agricultural area are taken into account, they are estimated at several billion dollars.

According to witnesses, the Israeli troops continue consolidation on the occupied lands, are building strong-points, are planting mines on fields. In the Burj Rahhal village, several peasants who intended to work in the field have been blown up in an Israeli mine explosion. Three persons were gravely wounded.

'COMPLICATED' POLITICAL SITUATION EXISTS IN LEBANON

LD221552Y Moscow TASS in English 1433 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, April 22, TASS--The situation in the Lebanese capital remains complicated after armed clashes in the districts of Ash-Shiyah and 'Ayn al-Rummanah. Bursts of submachine gun fire, grenade and bomb explosions were heard in different parts of Beirut yesterday in the day and night time. The impression is that certain circles are trying hard to aggravate the political crisis now being experienced in connection with the resignation of the Salim al-Huss government.

Political consultations have begun between President Ilyas Sarkis and representatives of the main parties and forces with a view to elaborate a joint platform and to form a new cabinet. As is noted by the press, the head of the Lebanese state stands for formation of a national unity government that would be able to, specifically, keep in check the armed militia of the conservative forces, to restore the Lebanese regular army.

At a meeting held yesterday the Central Political Council of the national patriotic forces of Lebanon noted that the resignation of the Salim al-Huss cabinet results from a deep political crisis the republic has long been living through as a result of activities of the conservative forces which form "the Lebanese front." The government proved to be unable to cope with the obtaining political situation in the country, caused by the continuing Israeli occupation of southern areas and attempts of certain circles to aggravate the situation through the escalation of aggressive military actions against the inter-Arab peace force. The governmental crisis, the statement runs, can drag on for long, if the Lebanese authorities do not make serious efforts to eliminate its causes. In this connection, the national patriotic movement believes it necessary that the main stress should be made on eliminating the aftermath of the Israeli aggression, at frustrating the attempts to aggravate the tension.

MILITARY SITUATION IN LEBANON REMAINS TENSE

LD211814Y Moscow TASS in English 1730 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, April 21, TASS--TASS correspondent Anatoliy Borisov reports:

The situation in Lebanon after the resignation of the Salim al-Huss government remains tense. Sporadic exchanges of fire break out in various parts of the capital, bursts are heard, and cases of kidnapping and open piracy became frequent. According to the command of the internal security forces, nine people were kidnapped in Beirut over the past two days. Most of enterprises and shops do not function in the eastern sector of the capital, and schools remain closed.

A considerable complication of the situation after the killing of several citizens and a series of explosions was also observed in the city of Tripoli in the country's north throughout yesterday. The entire business life in the city has been virtually paralyzed.

Alarming reports come in from Lebanon's south where the Israeli military continue armed provocations against detachments of the Palestinian resistance movement and Lebanese national patriotic forces. Last night Israeli artillery for two hours shelled the positions of the Palestinian resistance movement and national-patriotic forces in the area of Tyre, Ras Al'Ayn and Dayr Kanounga, Israeli aviation makes regular reconnaissance flights practically over the entire territory of southern Lebanon. Israeli naval ships repeatedly approached Lebanese coast in the area of Tyre.

A curfew was imposed in the western sector of southern Lebanon by an order of the command of the Israeli troops in the occupied territory. Israeli units suspended the return of refugees to the occupied areas. The Israeli currency was brought into circulation there.

As news agencies report, Eitan, new chief of the general staff of the Israeli Armed Forces, visited Lebanon's south yesterday for an "inspection tour" during which he met Haddam, commander of the detachments of the conservative forces in the south.

Local observers, paying attention to the direct connection between the continuation of the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon and the heightening of tension in other parts of the country, point out that the dragging out by Tel Aviv of the implementation of the U.N. Security Council's Resolution No 425 may have a ruinous effect on the internal political situation in Lebanon and leap to new sanguinary events. The newspaper FALASTIN ATH-THAWRAH points to a necessity to include representatives of national patriotic forces, without which it is impossible to solve any of the complex problems facing the country, in a new Lebanese Government.

ISRAELI CP LEADER ASSESSES BEGIN'S POLICIES

LD231413Y Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Rome, April 23, TASS--The main reason why there is no peace in the Middle East is the Israeli Government's refusal to recognize the existence of the Palestinian Arab people, its right to self-determination and to the creation of its own independent state, said the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel, Meir Vilner. The Begin government, he said, refuses even to withdraw its troops, in the framework of peaceful settlement in the Middle East, from Arab lands occupied by Israel since 1967. The situation in the area deteriorated sharply and became more dangerous after Israel's invasion of Lebanon, occupation of a part of the Lebanese territory and slaying of hundreds of peaceful Lebanese and Palestinians. The Begin government, Meir Vilner said, relies on the ultra-right circles in the United States that declare against detente. But Israel cannot be propped by bayonets for long. The plan of turning Israel into a U.S. military base will not give any guarantee of its security and, moreover, will turn Israel into a U.S. colony, said the general secretary of the Communist Party of Israel. Israel's security will be ensured only as a result of a just and real peace under the condition that Israel withdraw its troops from the occupied lands and an independent Palestinian state be created.

The general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel said that when a delegation of the Communist Party of Israel was recently visiting in Moscow, it was confirmed again that an all-embracing peace settlement in the Middle East can be achieved only on the basis of withdrawal of Israeli troops from all lands occupied since 1967, of recognition of inalienable national rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including their right to self-determination and creation of their own state and ensurance, under appropriate international guarantees, of independent existence and security of all states of the region recorded in documents of international law. Not a single international problem nowadays can be solved without the Soviet Union, Meir Vilner said. It goes without saying that this is true also of the extremely complex Middle East problems. The Geneva peace conference is the most suitable place for talks on achieving the desired peace. All sides concerned, including representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, must take part in it. A just and durable peace can be achieved in Geneva on the basis of observance of the well known conditions to the benefit of Israel and all Arab nations.

BEGIN RECEIVES PROTESTING ISRAELI ARMY OFFICERS

LD221434Y Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

["People's Opinion Ignored"--TASS headline]

[Text] Rome, April 22, TASS--The movement of protest against the Tel Aviv leadership's extremist policy is growing wider in Israel. Under public pressure Prime Minister Begin was compelled to receive a delegation of Israeli peace champions.

Early in April the initiative group of this movement, made of more than 300 reserve officers of the Israeli Army, arranged in Tel Aviv a mammoth meeting of protest, keynoted by the (?slogan) "peace now". After one hour and a half long talk with the prime minister the members of the delegation stated that his extremist stand leaves no hope at all for success of further peace negotiations. In an interview to Western journalists they noted that Begin resolutely declared against full withdrawal of all Israeli troops from the occupied Arab lands. He asserted that allegedly the lands on the occupied western bank of the River Jordan "do not belong to Arabs". The members of the delegation have been greatly disappointed with the overt unwillingness of Israel's leadership to heed the opinion of the popular masses. But the peace champions in Israel will continue the struggle for a just settlement in the Middle East, they stated.

LEBANESE CP MESSAGE CLAIMS PRC ANTI-SOVIETISM HURT ARABS

LD231857Y Moscow TASS in English 1723 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, April 23, TASS--The Central Committee of the Lebanese Communist Party sent a message to the leadership of the Communist Party of China urging it to give up its policy of anti-Sovietism.

The message notes with satisfaction the repeated Soviet initiatives aimed at normalising relations with the Chinese side, based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and proceeding from the vital interests of the peoples of the two countries, the cause of peace and socialism. However, the message says, all of them, including the latest address by the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, were rejected by the PRC. Special concern is caused by the circumstance that the Chinese Government every time puts forth new conditions as necessary requisites for improving the relations between the two states. For example, it is raising the question of so-called "disputed territories" using it for unleashing hostile campaigns against the Soviet Union.

The Central Committee of the Lebanese Communist Party writes that the Peking leadership's anti-Soviet course is spearheaded against the relaxation of international tension, against the national-liberation movement. It helps to strengthen the positions of the forces of imperialism and reaction in their struggle against socialism.

Such a policy, the message points out, is inflicting irreparable damage to the interests of Arab peoples, the Lebanese people included. Support given by the PRC to the defeatist course of Egyptian President as-Sadat prompted Israel towards the brazen aggression against Lebanon and its people, against the Palestine resistance movement. Rallied under the banner of anti-Sovietism are the forces of imperialism, Zionism and reaction, seeking to perpetuate the consequences of Israel's aggression, to prevent the implementation of the Palestine Arab people's legitimate national rights, to prevent the preservation of Lebanon's integrity.

In the name of the struggle that the peoples of the earth are waging for progress, peace and freedom, we demand of you to reject the policy of anti-Sovietism, says the message. We are convinced that this appeal answers the national interests of the Chinese people itself, which demand the development of friendly relations with the Soviet Union, joint struggle in the ranks of the revolutionary, progressive and anti-imperialist forces.

The Central Committee of the Lebanese Communist Party underlines that full responsibility for the consequences of the policy of hostility to the USSR falls on the PRC leadership.

CYPRUS OFFICIALS REJECT TURKISH COMMUNITY PROPOSAL

LD211802Y Moscow TASS in English 1558 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

["Statement by the President of Cyprus"--TASS headline]

[Text] Nicosia, April 21 TASS--A joint meeting of the National Council and the Council of Ministers of Cyprus has been held here under the chairmanship of President Spiros Kiprianou. As stated by the latter at a press conference here, the participants of the meeting rejected the proposals on the solution of the Cyprus problem, recently advanced by the Turkish community. We regard these proposals as "absolutely inacceptable", inasmuch as they lead to the formation of two separate states in the island, the president stressed.

Our stand on the Cyprus problem remains the same and is based on corresponding resolutions of the United Nations on Cyprus, Spiros Kiprianou noted. We continue to support the Soviet proposal to hold a representative international conference on Cyprus within the framework of the United Nations. If the settlement process runs into another blind alley, we intend to request the United Nations Security Council to take the necessary measures to carry out the United Nations resolutions. In conclusion Spiros Kiprianou said that Cyprus would not bow to any threats and would not alter its position, no matter what pressure was brought to bear upon it. It will continue the struggle for a peaceful and just solution of the problem in the interests of all the Cyprus people both the Greeks and the Turks. The president urged the patriots to unite in this complicated and responsible period for the country.

WORKERS PARTY LEADER CALLS FOR TURKEY TO LEAVE NATO

LD231519Y Moscow TASS in English 1454 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

["Demand That Turkey Quit Aggressive Blocs"--TASS headline]

[Text] Ankara, April 23, TASS--Turkey's alliance with NATO leads to the infringement of the republic's sovereignty and threatens its national security, Behice Boran, the general chairman of the Turkish Workers' Party, said at a mass meeting in the Turkish capital. The meeting was the highlight of a campaign under the slogan "no to NATO" that was held in Turkey for three weeks. Taking part in the campaign were 25 democratic organisations and trade unions of Turkey uniting workers, employees, lawyers, doctors, teachers and people of other professions.

NATO is not at all a means of defence as we are being told over a long time, but a militarist organisation, an instrument of implementing imperialist aggressive designs, B. Boran said. With NATO's assistance, interference in internal affairs of sovereign states is made and the national liberation movement is cruelly suppressed to protect the interests of the exploiter classes.

The NATO circles have been spiralling the arms race for 29 years, B. Boran stressed. Their policy is spearheaded above all against the socialist countries since the socialist system put an end to what NATO seeks to preserve, exploitation of man by man. The aggressive forces now harbour the plans of deploying in NATO countries the new barbarous weapon, the neutron bomb. We say no to this horrible weapon. It must not be deployed in Turkey, B. Boran said. To achieve real independence, Turkey must quit NATO, CENTO and the Common Market which gear the country to imperialism, said the general chairman of the Turkish Workers' Party. This step would meet the interests of the Turkish people.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

ETHIOPIAN ENVOY: SOVIET AID CRUCIAL TO ETHIOPIA'S SURVIVAL

LD212350Y Moscow TASS in English 2110 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Delhi, April 21, TASS--The people of Ethiopia will never forget the aid given by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in the course of its liberation struggle against the Somali aggressors and some powers backing them. This statement was made at a press conference here today by the Ethiopian Ambassador in India Amde Michael Belachew. We highly treasure Soviet aid which became the decisive condition of our victory. This aid, the ambassador stressed, is really unselfish and there are absolutely no political strings attached.

Amde Michael Belachew spoke about the tremendous damage inflicted by the aggressors to the Ethiopian economy. Enterprises, power stations, bridges, hospitals and schools were totally destroyed. Damage runs into millions and millions of dollars. At this difficult time for Ethiopia its people is doing everything to rehabilitate the economy. We are inspired that we are not alone, the ambassador said. The Soviet Union, the socialist countries, all progressive forces on earth are with us, the ambassador said.

ETHIOPIAN PAPER TERMS CENTO RESOLUTION GROSS INTERFERENCE

LD231057Y Moscow TASS in English 0934 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, April 23, TASS--Gross interference in Ethiopia's internal affairs: This is how the newspaper ETHIOPIAN HERALD describes a resolution about the situation in the Horn of Africa adopted at a session of the CENTO council in London.

Progressive and peaceful peoples, among them the Soviet Union, Cuba and other socialist countries, supported Ethiopia during trying days, the article says. They gave truly internationalist assistance to the Ethiopian people in the protection of its revolutionary gains and of the country's territorial integrity threatened by outright aggression. It is Ethiopia's sovereign right to establish such relations of cooperation and no one can tell our country with whom it should be friends, the newspaper writes.

Condemning attempts of the aggressive CENTO bloc to interfere in Ethiopia's internal affairs, the newspaper points out that the real purpose of the resolution adopted in London is to mislead the world public, to make new attacks on the Ethiopian people and its revolutionary transformations, to hamper the construction of new society based on the principles of justice equality and freedom. Trying to aggravate the situation in the Horn of Africa and to isolate Ethiopia, the forces of world reaction hope to make it a target for a new aggression.

FRENCH TROOPS SENT TO CHAD; FOREIGN MINISTER SEEK ARMS

LD212356Y Moscow TASS in English 1926 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Paris, April 21, TASS--The local press reports that units of the French Foreign Legion as well as big consignments of military hardware are being airlifted from France to the Republic of Chad.

The papers associate the dispatch of French servicemen with the complicated exacerbation of the situation in that Central African state. A few weeks ago the Government of Chad and the National Liberation Front [FROLINAT] which for a number of years has waged military operations against government troops, reached a ceasefire agreement, yet, judging by press reports, hostilities were recently resumed.

The minister of foreign affairs and cooperation of Chad, Wadal Abdelkadar Kamougue, arrived in Paris and the papers are expecting him to ask shortly for stepping up French military support and even "direct participation" by French troops in the struggle against the National Liberation Front.

ANGOLAN MINISTRY CITES NEW ATTACKS BY ZAIRE, S. AFRICA

LD212328Y Moscow TASS in English 1635 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, April 21, TASS--Troops of Zaire and the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa continue staging armed provocations against the People's Republic of Angola (PRA). A statement issued here today by the PRA Ministry of Defence says that on April 4 a unit of the Army of the Republic of South Africa, operating from Namibia's territory, attacked an Angolan border post in Cunene Province. During the repulse of the attack, three South African soldiers were killed and the rest fled across the border. On the same day Angolan territory was shelled by artillery.

A week later, the statement points out, a Zairean fighter plane of Mirage type penetrated the PRA air space and dropped bombs on an Angolan village and then machinegunned it.

Over the past half-year the Ministry of Defence recorded about fifty armed actions staged against the PRA from the territory of Zaire and the racist-occupied Namibia, counting out attacks organized from the territory of those countries by criminal bands of the FNLA and the UNITA.

MPLA OFFICIAL CLAIMS WESTERN MERCENARIES ACTIVE IN ANGOLA

LD231822Y Moscow TASS in English 1730 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Madrid, April 23, TASS--British, French, Spanish and Portuguese mercenaries are taking part in bandit raids against the People's Republic of Angola, and fight on the side of the racist regimes in the south of Africa. This was announced at a press conference here by alternate member of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Workers Party [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola], E. Escorcio.

He stated that the Angolan Government is taking resolute measures in order to cut short the criminal activity of mercenaries and puppet groupings in the northern and southern parts of the country.

FNLA, UNITA DEPENDENT ON AMERICAN WEAPONS

LD220004Y Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Paris, April 21, TASS--The splitter FNLA [National Front for the Liberation of Angola] and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] groupings used U.S. arms in struggle against the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] Government during the civil war in Angola in 1975-1976. Frankly speaking, we completely depended on U.S. arms and ammunitions supplies. We would have not been able to last long without U.S. aid, "foreign minister" of the UNITA grouping J. Sangumbe admitted in an interview with a FRANCE PRESS agency correspondent.

The statement by the UNITA representative echoed the recent revelations by South African ministers. According to them, the aggression of the South African Republic against People's Angola for kindling the flames of civil war and weakening the positions of the government headed by Agostinho Neto was engineered with the approval and knowledge of the U.S. Government.

Thus, South African Foreign Minister R. Botha said in Capetown yesterday that together with Economics Minister Jan Huenis he was present while weapons from U.S. transport planes were unloaded at military bases of South African troops in Angola. These weapons, the minister said, were designed for shipment to FLNA and UNITA. Earlier, South African Defense Minister P. Botha stressed, addressing the parliament, that the USA gave full support for the military operations of the Republic of South Africa and Angola.

All these pronouncements run counter to the official statements from Washington. The State Department continues denying U.S. involvement in military operations of the South African Republic in Angola. The United States, the state department assures, did not supply arms to the troops of the South African republic in Angola... U.S. planes did not carry arms to Angola... The decision on incursion into Angola was unilaterally taken by the Government of the South African Republic and in its own interests.

These facts do not tally, gentlemen.

NIGERIAN PAPER CLAIMS FRG ARMS COMPANY SEEKS NUCLEAR ROLE

LD212326Y Moscow TASS in English 1549 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

["Dangerous Plans of the Otrag --TASS headline]

[Text] Lagos, April 21, TASS--The biggest Nigerian newspaper DAILY TIMES came forward with a disclosure of the dangerous plans of the West German Company Otrag (Orbital Transport und Raketen"). The article says that the company which already conducts tests of ballistic and cruise missiles at the missile range in the Zairean province of Shaba is nurturing plans to set up a new rocket base in Brazil.

Thus, West Germany is expecting to get yet another convenient proving ground to test rockets of any types. The newspaper points out that even the Western press had to admit that the rockets which the company is testing in Zaire now can be provided, if there is a wish, with nuclear warheads, too.

The DAILY TIMES emphasizes that the striving to create a nuclear missile potential of its own and get to themselves the most destructive means of warfare becomes an increasingly evident goal of the militarist circles of the FRG. West German specialists do a large amount of work on the technology of production of powerful rockets and various warheads for them under the cover of 'rendering scientific and technical assistance to developing countries'.

The Nigerian newspaper expresses serious apprehension that under the guise of development of "research rockets" Otrag specialists will be able to test military-purpose rocket systems both in Africa and in Brazil. The DAILY TIMES writes in conclusion that it is quite evident that the creation of the nuclear rocket potential together with revenge-seeking aspirations of the FRG's militarist circles create a real threat to the cause of peace throughout the world.

NAMIBIA ATTACKED BY TERRORISTS, AWAITS UN DECISION

LD231714Y Moscow TASS in English 1656 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Maputo, April 23, TASS--Military trucks carrying troops, tanks and armoured troop carriers are rapidly arriving in the administrative center of Namibia, Windhoek.

Checkpoints have been set up on the main streets of the city. At night gangs of facist-mongering thugs singing Nazi hymns go hunting Africans. Massive searches for opponents of the regime and first of all members of the South-West Africa People's Organization, are carried out throughout the country.

The terror campaign sweeping Namibia has been launched by South African occupation authorities on the eve of a special session of the U.S. General Assembly on Namibia, opening tomorrow. Trying to decide the fate of that country's people in the neocolonialist manner, the racist authorities are doing everything to stifle the voice of those who demand genuine independence and the elimination of the occupation regime in order to present their stooges as "represenatives of the people."

To demonstrate their "firmness" to the world community, the chiefs in Pretoria reiterated on the eve of the New York session their intention to continue the annexation of the only deepwater port of Namibia, Walvis Bay, and the occupation of the country by RSA troops.

The Western powers with tremendous economic interests in Namibia, from which they take out uranium, gold, diamonds and rare metals, are also bending efforts at preserving the possibility of further looting the country's natural riches. To finalize their joint position the leaders of the diplomatic departments of the USA, Britain, France, the FRG, and Canada are meeting today in London.

While continuing fruitless negotiations with Pretoria and failing to take any concrete steps against the occupiers, these countries actually help to implement the racist plans to set up a puppet regime in Namibia and grant it fictitious "independence". Such a regime would fully suit the Western monopolies operating there.

NKOMO ALLEGES RACISTS ESTABLISH PUPPETS IN S. AFRICA

LD231435Y Moscow TASS in English 1342 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] London, April 23, TASS--The maneuvers of imperialist powers concerning the question of independence of Namibia and Zimbabwe have the purpose to preserve their rule in southern Africa and by emplanting puppet regimes to prevent ensurance of genuine independence of these territories, to create a base for subversive actions against Angola, Mozambique, Zambia and other progressive African states. This was said here by one of the leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, Joshua Nkomo.

He pointed out that the West started showing concern over the problem of Zimbabwe only after it became clear that its ally of long standing, the Smith racist regime, is losing the war which is waged against it by the patriots.

Pointing out that the combat might of the freedom fighters is constantly growing, Joshua Nkomo said that a popular government of Zimbabwe can be created in the future in the liberated lands.

As to the collusion of the racist ringleader Smith with African puppet figures, our people reject the farce of "internal settlement" they play, Joshua Nkomo said. This deal ensures the white minority's control over all decisions of future "parliament" and secures for the white minority the ruling positions in the economy and state apparatus.

POLITICAL, ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATIONS IN PAKISTAN EXAMINED

LD211457Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[N. Khokhlov article: "Difficult Path"]

[Text] As is known, serious changes occurred 5 July 1977 in Pakistan--a country with a population of 75 million which became sovereign 30 years ago. The civilian government which replaced the military regime in December 1971 was disbanded, and a military administration headed by Gen Zia-Ul-Haq rose to power. Thus, Pakistan has now been under military rule for more than 9 months.

It should be pointed out that the new administration has preserved Pakistan's presidential system: The well-known politician, Fazal Elahi Chaudhry, remains head of state.

Since last July, events have shown that the country's military administration apparatus has encountered a series of internal difficulties which will be resolved only by concerted efforts. It is primarily a question of the Pakistani economy, which has been disrupted for a number of reasons. There has also been a considerable rise in foreign debts. The contrasting policies of the former government and the military administration to the nationalization of certain enterprises and land distribution has naturally affected both the pace of industrial development and the level of agricultural production.

Many problems are also connected with the activities of political parties in Pakistan. It is now necessary to add almost 70 more emerging organizations and groups to the opposition Pakistan People's Party [PPP] and Pakistan National Alliance. The PPP, which used to rule, is currently experiencing an acute crisis. Many supporters of party leader Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, former Pakistani premier, have been arrested and are charged with diverse violations of Pakistani law. Bhutto himself has been charged with violence against his political opponents, for which the Supreme Court in Lahore has sentenced him to death. The question of Bhutto's fate will, it has been announced, be settled in May.

It is perfectly obvious that, given such reversals, complications connected with the reorientation of domestic policy and the reappraisal of earlier concepts and ideas arise in Pakistan. Demonstrations have been held in several large cities despite the ban on political activities imposed by the military administration.

Gen Zia-Ul Haq recently met with representatives of the Pakistan National Alliance, the PPP, and the Muslim League. As Pakistani newspapers report, the schedule and process of replacing military rule with civilian rule, as well as elections, was discussed at this meeting. Let us note that the general elections scheduled for last October did not occur. The leaders of the military administration have repeatedly declared that the army remains divorced from politics and that the military does not wish to perpetuate its regime. Therefore, given certain conditions, the military administration is prepared to deliver power by legislative means to a civilian government. Pakistan's politicians are currently discussing the creation of a provisional national government even before the parliamentary elections, which have been postponed until 1979.

INDIAN-SYRIAN COMMUNIQUE VIEWS MIDDLE EAST, ECONOMIC TIES

LD230409Y Moscow TASS in English 2257 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Delhi, April 22, TASS--India and Syria expressed a deep concern over Israel's continued occupation of Arab lands. This is stated in the joint Indian-Syrian communique issued here today at the close of the six-day state visit to India by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

The situation in the Middle East, the communique points out, became sharply complicated in view of Israel's recent aggression which is a gross violation of Lebanon's sovereignty. A just and lasting peace in the Middle East can be achieved only on the basis of Israel's complete withdrawal from all occupied Arab lands. The communique emphasises the necessity for restoration of the Palestinians' right, including their right to establish an independent state. India and Syria expressed satisfaction with the development of relations between the two countries in the political, economic, trade and scientific fields.

OSTENSIBLE 'RESEARCH EXPEDITIONS' HAVE INTELLIGENCE GOAL

LD211826Y Moscow TASS in English 1619 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

["Spies in the Guise of Tourists"--TASS headline]

[Text] Delhi, April 21, TASS--Western intelligence services are stepping up their subversive activity in the territory of India, showing special interests in the border areas, notes the Indian LINK weekly. Over the past two years, the magazine writes, the number of foreign tourists who visited those areas has grown from two thousand to ten thousand. The Indian authorities have noticed the fact that many of such tourists annually visit border areas equipped with most detailed topographic maps. In some maps are plotted, for example, even old caravan routes to India from Central Asia across Ladakh. It was noted that "tourists" carry out medical, technical and geological survey with the use of the latest devices. Some of them stay over the winter in the mountains in spite of most difficult climatic conditions. Last year alone, Ladakh was visited by 23 foreign "research expeditions", including those from the United States, Britain, the FRG and Japan. The data recently obtained, the LINK weekly writes in conclusion, make it possible to believe that these expeditions were launched with intelligence aims.

RAHMAN ANNOUNCES 3 JUN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

LD231100Y Moscow TASS in English 0920 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Dacca, April 23, TASS--In a speech over the national radio and television, President of Bangladesh Ziaur Rahman announced the date of the presidential elections in Bangladesh, June 3 of this year. Ziaur Rahman said that the elections will be held through direct ballot. Restrictions on the activity of political parties will be ga gradually lifted from April 24, the president said. From May 1, political parties are allowed to hold meetings, the Ministry of the Interior announced today. But the ban on political demonstrations and processions remains. The parties' activity is regulated by the decree on political parties adopted by the military administration in 1976.

The Central Election Commission announced that candidatures for the presidential elections must be submitted to the commission on May 2. President Ziaur Rahman already started the election campaign by leaving on a tour of Sylhet and Comilla districts.

KYODO Cites Kosygin Comments on KAL Incident

OW220036Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0009 GMT 22 Apr 78 OW

[Text] Moscow, April 21, KYODO--Soviet Premier Aleksey Kosygin said Friday that two passengers aboard a Korean Air Lines jetliner were killed and two others injured when the plane landed at a frozen lake in the Soviet Union after violating Soviet airspace. He told Agriculture-Forestry Minister Ichiro Nakagawa during a meeting that the Soviet Union planned to return the passengers to their desired place as soon as possible.

Nakagawa had met with Kosygin prior to the signing of the Japan-Soviet fishery cooperation agreement. During the meeting, Nakagawa told the premier that many Japanese were aboard the KAL plane and expressed the hope that they will be returned as soon as possible. Kosygin said he was well aware of the incident involving the KAL plane. He said the plane was ordered to land because it had violated Soviet airspace but it did not heed the order and flew about for some two hours before landing on the lake. At the time of landing, two passengers were killed and two others injured, he said. He said the plane landed on a frozen lake in Soviet Karelia in northern Russia.

The Soviet TASS news agency also reported Friday that the KAL plane, flying from the Barents Sea, violated the Soviet airspace northeast of Murmansk and penetrated deep into Soviet territory. It said Soviet fighter planes intercepted the jetliner and issued orders to follow them to land at a nearby airfield. TASS said, however, that the planes did not respond to the orders and landed on a lake in the vicinity of the town of Kem in Karelia.

The KAL plane carried 97 passengers, including 50 Japanese, and a crew of 13. The Japanese passenger who was killed was later identified as Y. Sugano. Y. Sugano was believed to be either Yasuo Sugano, 33, an owner of a tea shop in Yokohama, or his brother Yoshitaka, 31. The two brothers had left Tokyo April 5 on a two-week visit to Europe. Yasuo had told his wife that he planned to return to Tokyo Friday night. All of the other Japanese passengers were reported safe.

Kosygin Blames Pilot

OW231013Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1010 GMT 23 Apr 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, April 23, KYODO--Agriculture-Forestry Minister Ichiro Nakagawa said here Sunday Soviet Premier Aleksey Kosygin and Fisheries Minister A. A. Ishkov were puzzled at the alleged violation of Soviet air space by a Korean Air Lines plane when Nakagawa met the Soviet leaders last week. Nakagawa, speaking to newsmen at Tokyo airport upon his return home from Moscow, said he talked with the Soviet leaders on the incident during his fishery talks.

Kosygin said that because the KAL plane entered Soviet territorial air, the Soviets continued to order the plane to land for 2 hours, Nakagawa said. Kosygin told him that the Korean airliner did not obey the order and made an emergency landing on a frozen lake in which two persons were killed and four injured. The Soviet premier blamed the pilot of the Korean plane for the incident, Nakagawa said.

ISHKOV, NAKAGAWA SIGN PROTOCOL DEFINING FISHING LIMITS

OW220228Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0016 GMT 22 Apr 78 OW

[Text] Moscow, April 21, KYODO--Japan and the Soviet Union signed here Friday night a Japan-Soviet agreement on fishery cooperation between the two countries and on protection and catching of salmon in waters in the northwest Pacific outside of the Soviet 200-mile exclusive fishery zone. The fishery cooperation agreement was signed at the Soviet Fisheries Ministry between Agriculture-Forestry Minister Ichiro Nakagawa and Soviet Fisheries Minister Aleksandr Ishkov. A protocol concerning Japan's salmon catch quota for this year also was signed between the two.

Nakagawa was scheduled to leave Moscow for Tokyo Saturday. He plans to have the agreement approved and ratification procedures taken by April 29 when the present Japan-Soviet fishery pact will expire so that Japanese salmon fishing boats can start operating at the end of the month.

The fishery cooperation agreement will be in force for a five-year period and will be extended automatically unless Japan or the Soviet Union notifies its abrogation. The agreement allows the Soviet Union the right to inspect and capture Japanese fishing boats. As to court jurisdictional rights, it clearly specifies the right of the "maritime flag state" under which the courts of the country to which the fishing boats belong to have the right to conduct trial on violations. This is one of the focal points of the seven-article agreement.

Article One of the agreement calls for Japan and the Soviet Union to cooperate in the fishery sector for the sake of protecting, increasing and utilizing fishery resources in the northwest Pacific.

Article Two says that cooperation will be conducted in respect to fishery technology, breeding technology, processing and preservation methods, exchange of data and scientific researches.

The agreement also calls for concrete measures to be decided annually concerning salmon resources and their rational utilization. Through this, the Japanese side holds that Japan will be assured of continued salmon fishing operations in the future also. The protocol sets the salmon catch quota for Japan in the open seas outside the Soviet 200-mile Zone at 42,500 tons this year. The fishing season will start May 1 and end July 31. The protocol also sets the areas where fishing will be banned.

Negotiations on the fishery cooperation pact started February 15 and lasted more than two months. The Soviet Union maintained throughout the negotiations that it possesses sovereignty over salmon returning to home waters for spawning. Nakagawa said in his address after the signing of the agreement and protocol that he believed fishermen in Hokkaido and other areas in Japan will be dealt a serious blow due to the fact that the salmon catch quota has been reduced drastically by 20,000 tons over last year.

TASS Report

LD212052Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1914 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 21 April, TASS--Aleksandr Ishkov, USSR minister of the fish industry, and Ichiro Nakagawa, Japanese minister of agriculture, forestry and fishing, today signed an agreement on cooperation in the fishing industry. A protocol was also signed on the order and conditions of conducting salmon fishing in the northwest Pacific Ocean in this [words indistinct].

The agreement covers a wide range of problems of the scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Japan in fishing for an extensive period.

KOSYGIN SHOWS STRONG INTEREST IN DRAFT TREATY WITH JAPAN

OW220048Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0025 GMT 22 Apr 78 OW

[Text] Moscow, April 21, KYODO--Soviet Premier Aleksey Kosygin showed strong interest Friday in respect to the Soviet-proposed Japan-Soviet good neighborhood and cooperation treaty and expressed the view that relations between Japan and the Soviet Union will improve further if the treaty was concluded. He said this in a meeting with Agriculture-Forestry Minister Ichiro Nakagawa.

In reply, Nakagawa said that Japan finds it difficult to accept the Soviet proposal on the treaty since it plans to conclude a peace treaty covering also the return to Japan of the four northern islands of Habomai, Etorofu, Kunashiri and Shikotan lying off eastern Hokkaido. He sought the understanding of Kosygin on this point.

Nakagawa also reported to Kosygin on the outcome of the fishery talks. He told the premier that Japanese fishermen had suffered a blow since the salmon catch quota last year and in 1978 had been reduced sharply by 20,000 tons each annually. He hoped that the Soviet Union will show consideration in preventing a sudden change.

JSP JOURNAL'S SUPPORT OF USSR-JAPAN FACT CITED

LD211455Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Sober Position"]

[Text] Tokyo, 18 April--The draft neighborliness and cooperation treaty between the USSR and Japan submitted by the Soviet Union is attracting attention as a document aimed at improving Japanese-Soviet relations and at maintaining peace and detente in Asia," the Japanese journal SHAKAI SHUGI ("SOCIALISM"), organ of the left wing of the Japanese Socialist Party, stresses.

The journal notes that leading Japanese newspapers have also pointed out the positive importance of this document. In particular, ASAHI has written that "the draft treaty is arousing great interest in the creation of a long-term basis for developing comprehensive relations of cooperation between Japan and the USSR in politics, economics, science, technology and other spheres."

Nevertheless, the journal continues, "Japan's Government has adopted an inflexible position, refusing to even consider the draft treaty submitted by the Soviet Union." In addition to this, the Japanese press has featured reports--including some citing "Japanese foreign ministry circles"--which attack the Soviet draft neighborliness and cooperation treaty.

Refuting these attacks and other related fabrications, SHAKAI SHUGI writes: "The allegations that the Soviet draft treaty proposes to abandon a Japanese-Soviet peace treaty are completely unfounded. The preamble of the draft treaty says clearly that both sides 'reaffirm their intention to continue the talks on concluding a peace treaty.' [paragraph continues]

The allegations that the Soviet draft treaty attempts to form a military alliance and seeks to tranform Japan into a satellite country of the USSR are also absolutely groundless. Nothing of the kind is contained in the text of the draft treaty. It would be no exaggeration to say that the arguments about 'Japan becoming a satellite country' represent no more than demagogy."

As far as the so-called "northern territories" issue is concerned--an issue which the opponents of a USSR-Japan treaty exaggerate--the journal notes that the "Soviet Union adheres to the basic position that the 'northern territories' issue does not exist since it has already been resolved on the basis of the international treaties concluded at the end of World War II and is recognized by Japan's Government. The present position of Japan's Government directly contradicts this. Therefore, this issue is an obstacle to the development of Japanese-Soviet relations. It is necessary to make every effort to advance--even if by just a step or two--the cause of improving Japanese-Soviet relations and to promote detente in Asia. The draft USSR-Japan neighbourliness and cooperation treaty submitted by the Soviet Union should be positively assessed as precisely such a step. This is also attested by the Soviet side's explanations regarding the draft treaty."

"Currently when anti-Soviet propaganda combined with dangerous intrigues to revive militarism have been mounted in Japan and the bourgeois nationalist movement for the return of the 'northern territories' is being forcibly accelerated, the improvement of Japanese-Soviet relations is an urgent necessity," SHAKAI SHUGI stresses. "It is therefore necessary to display a solicitous attitude toward improving of bilateral relations and creating favorable conditions for the maintenance of peace and detente in Asia. The draft USSR-Japan neighborliness and cooperation treaty submitted by the Soviet Government is a guideline in this direction."

JAPAN'S PUBLIC, PRESS REACTION TO SENKAKU INTRUSION NOTED

LD211922Y Moscow TASS in English 1904 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

["Peking's Provocation"--TASS headline]

[Text] Tokyo, April 21, TASS--Some 100 Chinese fishing vessels were again spotted today in the area of the Senkaku Islands, reported the Japanese board for safety at sea [Maritime Safety Agency.] Some of them were in the immediate vicinity of the 12-mile zone around the islands. The Chinese vessels appeared in the Senkaku area ten days ago and during the first week sailed within the 12-mile zone.

A delegation of the prefectural assembly of Okinawa presented the Japanese Government with a statement demanding that it take a resolute stand in regard to Peking's provocative actions. The residents of Okinawa, the document stresses, are very much alarmed by Peking's territorial claims.

A similar appeal to the government was made by participants in a mass rally of Okinawa fishermen in Naha, who demanded urgent and effective measures.

The paper SANKEI SHIMBUN in today's editorial condemns the position of the Peking authorities in connection with the intrusion of Chinese vessels into the Senkaku region.

These events, the paper notes, reveal the essence of China's policy of territorial claims, made also to the Soviet Union, India, Vietnam and other countries. The article condemns those elements in Japan which proposed solving the problem of Senkaku in isolation from a "treaty of peace and friendship" with China. The paper calls for a review of Japan's policy in regard to China with account of Japan's national interests, and for caution in the matter of concluding a treaty with Peking.

PRC PRESENTS ABSURD REASONS FOR SENKAKU INTRUSION

LD211319Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent Yu. Bandura dispatch: "The Stripy Filefish and Peking's Ambitions"]

[Text] Tokyo--Chinese fishing boats armed with large-caliber machineguns spent more than 4 days in an area which Japan claims as its territorial waters. Only on Sunday afternoon did the last PRC boat leave the disputed region, and the entire flotilla of 137 vessels moved some 20 miles away from the uninhabiated islands claimed by both Japan and China.

The Chinese side's provocative actions have shocked Japan, particularly since the Peking policy manipulators have spent more than 5 years attempting to present Chinese diplomacy as an expression of friendliness toward Tokyo. The Chinese side's behavior, which is unanimously regarded as an unprovoked encroachment upon Japan's sovereignty, has been greeted with such extensive condemnation that even the clamorous pro-Peking lobby has been silenced.

Peking, finding neither understanding nor sympathy for its demarche in Japan has begun to maneuver, first making concessions, then baring its teeth once again. Apparently trying to conceal PRC aggression, Keng Piao, vice premier of the PRC State Council, declared to Japanese delegation that the appearance of Chinese vessels off the Senkaku Islands was "accidental."

A representative of the Peking Sino-Japanese Friendship Society, who wished to remain anonymous, gave a more detailed version of the "accident" in an interview with an ASAHI correspondent. According to his account, the cause of the conflict is...the stripy filefish.

The stripy filefish is a small fish in the East China Sea. Moreover, by the "representative's" admission, it is almost unfit for food. It was allegedly in pursuit of a shoal of these unappetizing fish that the Chinese boats penetrated the disputed region.... Perhaps this explanation would be satisfactory, if not for a fact which has been noted regularly by all Japanese newspapers: "The boats which entered territorial waters do not engage in fishing."

But here is the main argument: "The boats chasing the shoal had no idea that they had entered the 12-mile zone of Japan's territorial waters." Surely the Sino-Japanese friendship society representative was aware of this fact: in reply to the announcements in Chinese: "You have intruded into Japanese territorial waters," which were repeated for more than 4 days by Japanese patrol boats, the Chinese boats displayed panels and placards which plainly stated: "This is Chinese territory!"

Commenting on Peking's explanations, Tokyo newspapers emphasize that hardly a single person in Japan will believe the version of the accidental nature of the incident.

What then, in that case, served as the reason for it? Despite all the versions in the local press, in any event, the answer is: Peking has demonstrated a desire to capture the islands which Japan proclaims is part of its own territory. The "chase for the stripy filefish" attests that, in its territorial claims, Peking is prepared to make the transition from words to deeds.

JAPANESE-U.S. NAVAL MANEUVERS UNDERSCORE MILITARIZATION

LD172103Y Moscow TASS in English 2016 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 17, TASS--TASS commentator Vasiliy Kharkov writes: Joint naval exercises of the U.S. and Japan began today on the Pacific. Naval exercises under the Japanese-American military alliance are being held not for the first time, yet the present exercises are the biggest of them all, and their aims are rather frankly formulated. It has been officially announced that taking part in the exercises on the American side is a squadron which includes an aircraft carrier and a number of destroyers supported by aviation. On the Japanese side--submarines and warships of other classes. During the three-day exercises the interaction of the ships and the aircraft will be drilled mainly in combat against "submarine forces of the enemy."

Such close interaction may only whip up the militarisation of Japan which is already being implemented of late at a high pace as it is. It is indicative also from the viewpoint of the current U.S. military doctrine in Asia, which is based on the perpetuation of a "further U.S. military presence" in that area, combined with a build-up of the military might of America's allies there.

Contrary to Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution, which proclaims that no land, naval, or air forces, or any other means of warfare shall be created in the country, the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party officially stated at its recent congress that Japan's present military potential is inadequate.

The militarisation plan, or the plan for "building up defence efforts," as it is called officially, provides allocations over the next five years of 12.6 trillion yen for military purposes. This is almost the same amount that was spent on the armed forces in the last 20 years. Particularly heavy spending is planned for the re-equipment of the air force and the navy. It is even planned for the navy to have its own aircraft carrier.

Japanese industrial circles, particularly weapons manufacturers, are keenly interested in the earliest implementation of these vast plans, which promise great profits. It is not accidental that the concerns of Mitsubishi, Kawasaki and Ishikawadzima--those pillars of Japan's military industry during the Second World War--are active once again in the arms race. It is reported that already this year they will start the production of new types of aircraft and warships on U.S. licenses. Washington's insistence that Japan play a more prominent role in American military plans in Asia, finds support among Japanese militarists. The latter, in obviation of the Constitution, would like to find legal grounds for sending Japanese troops abroad. The current joint U.S.-Japanese naval exercises on the high seas create a dangerous precedent in this respect.

The rearmament of Japan runs counter to the national interests of its own people, just as against the interest of other Asian peoples, who realise the scale of the threat posed by the rebirth of Japanese militarism.

CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER MALMIERCA CONTINUES USSR VISIT

18 Apr Dinner Speeches

LD211417Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Excerpt] TASS--A.A. Gromyko gave a dinner in honor of I. Malmierca [on 18 April].

Welcoming the guests, A.A. Gromyko said: The words of L.I. Brezhnev, "there is a bit of Cuba in the heart of every Soviet person," come to mind at every meeting with our friends from the island of freedom. They are very accurate and true words. They reflect well the feelings of ardent love and revolutionary solidarity which the communists and all citizens of the first country of victorious socialism have toward the people of Cuba.

It gladdens us immensely that the ties of friendship and fraternity between our peoples are strengthening daily. The cooperation between our countries, based on the principles of Matxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, is becoming ever more profound and fruitful.

L.I. Brezhnev and Fidel Castro are making a tremendous contribution to the strengthening of the fraternal alliance of our peoples and states. The Soviet-Cuban declaration signed by them in 1974 is a program of extensive and all-round cooperation on whose basis our relations are consistently and steadily strengthening and developing.

The CPSU and the Soviet Government--I can state this with full assurance on behalf of the Soviet leadership--will do everything to insure that Soviet-Cuban cooperation becomes ever more profound and fruitful.

The achievements of the Cuban revolution serve as an inspiring example to Latin American peoples who are waging a struggle to strengthen their political independence and economic independence.

Cuba's consistent and principled foreign policy line is insuring its growing prestige in the world and the steady expansion of its international ties. The peoples see Cuba as an example of the genuinely revolutionary and truly internationalist policy of a socialist country.

Wide international recognition is being gained by Cuba's activity in the nonalinement movement which is making a positive contribution to the common struggle of the peoples against imperialism, colonialism and racism.

In implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the First Cuban Communist Party Congress, A.A. Gromyko said, our parties and states are cooperating successfully in the interests of strengthening peace and international security. Thanks to the combined efforts of the fraternal countries and the forces of peace and progress, detente has become the determining factor in the development of international relations. At the same time we see that imperialist forces are striving to hinder the further slackening of international tension and would like to impose a new round in the arms race on the world.

The main direction of the Soviet Union's foreign policy activity is for disarmament, for the struggle to halt the arms race, to eradicate the threat of thermonuclear war and to insure a peaceful future for all people. New and graphic confirmation of this is provided in L.I. Brezhnev's recent speeches during his Siberian and Far East tour which had a widespread, positive international impact. And we are glad that fraternal Cuba and other socialist community countries are with us in this noble struggle for peace. The strengthening of the positions of the forces of peace, democracy and socialism and the intensification of their influence on the course of world affairs is troubling to our

enemies. This is expressed in particular in the anti-Soviet and anti-Cuban campaign in connection with the well-known events in the Horn of Africa. I would like to stress, A.A. Gromyko said, that in Africa, as in any other part of the world, the socialist states, in providing international aid, have been and will continue to be on the side of the peoples waging just struggles against imperialist oppression, aggression, colonialism and racism.

We are profoundly satisfied at the full mutual understanding which characterizes Soviet-Cuban relations, A.A. Gromyko said in conclusion. United by the same communist ideals and ties of revolutionary solidarity, the Soviet Union and Cuba are successfully implementing plans of socialist and communist building.

In a speech in reply I. Malmierca expressed profound satisfaction that a Cuban delegation is again visiting the motherland of Lenin which is dear to all.

It was exactly 20 years ago, he said, that we made our first visit to the USSR. Then we were representatives of socialist youth at the 13th Lenin Komsomol Congress. We had the opportunity to participate in the numerous meetings and demonstrations which were held as a sign of solidarity with the Cuban people's struggle against the Batiste tyranny.

Since then that solidarity has been repeatedly manifested and always at the most decisive moment. That solidarity was with us in battle and in everyday working life. It was with us 17 years ago when we were forced to repel the aggression of the Playa Giron mercenaries and when we fought the battle to develop our economy.

We consider that this visit and these talks will contribute to the further deepening of broad and all-round relations which have become firmly established between our two socialist countries.

Many questions attract our mutual attention. In questions of the struggle for peace, universal and total disarmament, the right of the peoples to strengthen their national independence, and social progress occupy a prominent place in our talks.

We are aware that dangerous hotbeds of tension persist in various regions of the world as a result of the intrigues of the most reactionary imperialist circles. However, we believe in the rightness of our cause and in the consistent implementation of the principles of proletarian internationalism.

Today, I. Malmierca said in conclusion, we are carrying out our natural revolutionary duty when we reaffirm that the Soviet Union has been the main bulwark of the victories of the national liberation and revolutionary movement, victories which testify to the alteration in the correlation of forces in favor of socialism and progress. And there have never been such topical words as those expressed by Comrade Fidel Castro in April 1977 when he said that the prestige of the socialist camp, and particularly of the Soviet Union, is steadily growing among all the peoples, who see in our association [soobshchestvo] their reliable friend in the struggle against colonialism, neocolonialism, racism and imperialism.

The dinner was attended by:

From the Soviet side, USSR ministers T.B. Guzhenko and A.A. Ishkov; O.B. Rakhmanin, first deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee section; N.P. Tolubyev, Soviet ambassador to Cuba, and other officials;

From the Cuban side, S. Aguirre del Cristo, Cuban ambassador to the USSR, and the official accompanying the minister.

The dinner was held in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

Visits Volgograd

LD212020Y Moscow TASS in English 1950 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Volgograd, April 21, TASS--Member of Cuban Communist Party CC, Foreign Minister of Cuba Isidoro Malmierca Peoli today continued his acquaintance with Volgograd. He laid a wreath at the eternal flame in the square of the fallen heroes.

The minister, who is paying an official visit to the USSR, left Volgograd for Kiev, the capital of the Ukraine.

Arrives in Kiev

AU240955Y Kiev Domestic Service in Ukranian 0500 GMT 22 Apr 78 AU

[Text] Isidoro Malmierca Peoli, Cuban CP Central Committee member and Cuban minister of foreign relations, who is in the USSR on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government, arrived yesterday in the Ukraine's capital from Volgograd. At Borispol Airport decorated with the state flags of Cuba, the USSR and the Ukrainian SSR, Isidoro Malmierca Peoli and the persons accompanying him were welcomed by Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Council of Ministers First Deputy Chairman Vaschchenko, Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Shevel, Ukrainian Minister of Land Reclamation and Water Resources Garkusha and other officials.

Leaves Kiev for Moscow

AU240956Y Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 24 Apr 78 AU

[Text] Isidoro Malmierca Peoli, Cuban CP Central Committee member and Cuban minister of foreign relations, who is in the USSR on an official friendly visit, continued to familiarize himself with the hero city of Kiev yesterday. He inspected the Ukrainian State Museum of the History of the Great Fatherland War 1941-45 and made an entry in the visitors book.

A luncheon was given on behalf of the Ukrainian SSR Government in honor of the fraternal country's minister. Present at the luncheon were Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Council of Ministers First Deputy Chairman Vashchenko, Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo member and secretary Pogrebnyak, Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Shevel and Ukrainian Council of Ministers affairs administrator Boyko. Among those present at the luncheon was also Yezhov, general secretary of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Tolubeyev, USSR ambassador to Cuba; Aguirre del Cristo, Cuban ambassador to the USSR; and other Soviet and Cuban officials. During the luncheon, which took place in a cordial atmosphere, Grigoriy Ivanovich Vashchenko and Isidoro Malmierca exchanged friendly speeches. On the same day the Cuban minister left for Moscow.

Ends USSR Visit, Flies Home

LD240950Y Moscow TASS in English 0942 GMT 24 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 24 TASS--Cuba's Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca Peoli left Moscow by air for home today. [Moscow Domestic Service at 1245 GMT on 24 April notes that Gromyko and other officials were at the airport to see off Malmierca.]

Talking to journalists before his flight home, Isidoro Malmierca noted that the visit was useful and fruitful.

Discussed were both international problems and questions of bilateral Cuban-Soviet relations. The talk with general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev, the minister said, which was held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, demonstrated vividly once again that broad and the best of links in all spheres have [been] firmly established between Cuba and the Soviet Union, including in the sphere of foreign policy.

The negotiations, Isidoro Malmierca stressed, will undoubtedly further promote the deepening and expansion of fraternal relations between Cuba and the USSR.

CUBAN-ETHIOPIAN TALKS OPEN IN HAVANA

Official Talks

LD231055Y Moscow TASS in English 0836 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Havana, April 23 TASS--Official talks between delegations of the Republic of Cuba and socialist Ethiopia opened here in the Palace of the Revolution. The Cuban delegation is led by first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, Chairman of the State Council and of the Council of Ministers Fidel Castro. The Ethiopian delegation is led by Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, the chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of the Council of Ministers of socialist Ethiopia who arrived in Cuba for an official friendly visit.

Reception in Havana

LD231249Y Moscow TASS in English 1148 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Havana, April 23, TASS--The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and the State Council of the Republic gave a reception in honour of Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, the chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of the Council of Ministers of socialist Ethiopia now here on an official friendly visit.

Present at the reception were first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, Chairman of the State Council and of the Council of Ministers Fidel Castro and other leaders of the party and the Cuban Government.

Playa Giron Order to Mengistu

LD231146Y Moscow TASS in English 1055 GMT 23 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Havana, April 23, TASS--On the decision of the Government of the Republic of Cuba the Playa Giron Order was awarded to Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of the Council of Ministers of socialist Ethiopia Mengistu Haile Mariam now on an official friendly visit here.

The first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, Chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers Fidel Castro and Mengistu Haile Mariam spoke during the ceremony of the presentation of the order.

Presenting the Playa Giron Order to the distinguished guest, Fidel Castro emphasized great services of the Ethiopian leader in the struggle to rid his motherland of feudal yoke and capitalist exploitation, to make radical social and economic transformations in the country in the interests of broad masses of the people.

Fidel Castro pointed to profound feelings of sympathy and respect of the Cuban people for revolutionary transformations implemented in Ethiopia. He said that the Cuban people could not remain indifferent to intrigues of imperialism that tried to stifle the Ethiopian revolution, so the Cuban people, performing its internationalist duty, gave assistance to the Ethiopian people.

Giving this award to you, Fidel Castro said to Mengistu Haile Mariam, we give award also to the heroic Ethiopian people and to the revolution they have carried out which is our revolution, too.

Speaking in reply, Mengistu Haile Mariam stressed that the recent imperialist aggression against the Ethiopian revolution was successfully rebuffed due to internationalist assistance given to Ethiopia by the Soviet Union, Cuba and other countries, Mengistu Haile Mariam assesses highly the Cuban people's achievements.

In conclusion Mengistu Haile Mariam pointed out that the peoples and Governments of Ethiopia and Cuba are linked by durable, unbreakable bonds of friendship and cooperation.

USTINOV GREETS RAUL CASTRO ON PLAYA GIRON ANNIVERSARY

LD191409Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Text] To Army General Comrade Raul Castro Ruz, minister of the Revolutionary Army Forces of the Republic of Cuba:

Respected Comrade Minister:

On the 17th anniversary of the victory over the counterrevolutionary mercenaries at Playa Giron, I send you and all soldiers of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Republic of Cuba fraternal combat greetings and cordial congratulations personally and on behalf of the Soviet Armed Forces.

On this portentous day Soviet soldiers wish their Cuban brothers-in-arms--glorious heirs to their people's revolutionary traditions--further successes in combat and political training and in improving their military skill in the interests of strengthening the defense capability of their socialist motherland and in the name of the cause of peace and socialism.

With communist greetings,

[Signed] Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Ustinov, USSR minister of defense.

CASTRO'S MEETING WITH PALESTINIAN GEORGE HABBASH NOTED

LD230120Y Moscow TASS in English 2045 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

[Text] April 22, TASS [no city cited]--Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, chairman of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, received George Habbash, general secretary of the People's Front for the Liberation of Palestine (P.F.L.P.), who is (?here). Other members of the P.F.L.P. delegation led by George Habbash took part in the conversation which was held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN OTHERS ATTEND LENIN ANNIVERSARY FETE

LD211428Y Moscow TASS in English 1417 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 21, TASS--A celebration meeting devoted to the 108th anniversary of the birth of V.I. Lenin was held today in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses.

Present in the hall were workers, veterans of the party, people prominent in science and culture, representatives of party, soviet and public organizations, foreign diplomats, guests.

Leonid Brezhnev, Aleksey Kosygin and other leaders of the CPSU and the Soviet Government were met by the participants in the meeting with stormy, prolonged applause.

A report "Leninism as a Science of Revolutionary Struggle and Communist Construction" was made by Mikhail Solomentsev, candidate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1630 GMT on 21 April notes that the anniversary session in the Kremlin was attended by "Comrades Brezhnev, Andropov, Grishin, Gromyko, Kosygin, Kulakov, Mazurov, Pelshe, Suslov, Ustinov, Demichev, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, Solomentsev, Chernenko, Kapitonov, Dolgikh, Zimyanin, Ryabov and Rusakov. Also in the presidium were Prestes, secretary general of the Brazilian Communist Party Central Committee, and Arismendi, first secretary of the Uruguayan Communist Party Central Committee."]

SOVIET PARTY, STATE ORGANS AWARD LENIN PRIZES FOR 1978

LD212246Y Moscow TASS in English 2025 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 21 TASS--The CPSU Central Committee and the Council of Ministers of the USSR awarded Lenin prizes of 1978. The prizes are awarded once in two years for the most outstanding achievements in the fields of science, technology, literature and art on the day of Lenin's birth anniversary.

Among the new prize winners are Vladilen Letokhov and Venyamin Chebotarev, physicists, who accomplished a cycle of research in the field of optics, Vladimir Platonov, a mathematician, and Yuriy Ovchinnikov, biologist, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Boris Arbuzov and Arkadiy Pudovik, chemists, were awarded for working out new methods of synthesis of phosphorous compounds, and Academician Nikolay Tsitsin for evolving valuable species and varieties of agricultural plants.

The prizes were also awarded Gavril Ilizarov and Mikhail Krasnov, surgeons, and to the creators of the tractor Korovets, and of the world's biggest optical telescope.

Among the prize winners in the fields of literature and art are Aleksandr Chakovskiy, author of the epic Blockade, Maxim Tank, Belorussian poet, and the authors of the monument in commemoration of the heroic defence of Leningrad.

The prizes were awarded to Boris Aleksandrov, director of the song and dance ensemble of the Soviet Army, Irina Arkhipova, soloist of the Moscow Bolshoi Theatre, and the makers of the documentary films "The Story of a Communist" and "Following Lenin's Course"--Leonid Zamyatin, Vitaliy Ignatenko, Dmitriy Morozov, script writers, Igor Bessarabov, Yevgeniy Andrikanis, film directors, and Aleksander Kochetkov, cameraman.

AZERBAIJAN SUPREME SOVIET ADOPTS NEW CONSTITUTION

LD212048Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1520 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] The new Constitution of the Azerbaijan SSR has been unanimously adopted at the extraordinary session of the republic's Supreme Soviet. Today, Aliyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the commission for preparing the Azerbaijan SSR draft constitution, spoke at the conclusion of the session.

Discussing this important document, the deputies emphasized that the Azerbaijan SSR is a republic which enjoys equal rights within the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The USSR personifies the state unity of the Soviet people and unites all nations and ethnic groups for the joint construction of communism.

USSR SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM AWARDS ORDERS OF LENIN

LD240240Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD

[Text] By a decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Yuriy Aleksandrovich Zhukov, political observer of PRAVDA, has been awarded the title of Hero of Socialist Labor, with the Order of Lenin and Hammer and Sickle medal.

The well-known Soviet journalist has won this high title for his great services to the development of the Soviet press and on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1900 GMT notes that "by USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree, (Valentina Federovna Pekina), member of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, has been awarded the Order of Lenin. She was presented this award for her services to the Communist Party and the Soviet state and also in connection with her 70th birthday."]

SOVIET OFFICIALS ATTEND RADIO, TELEVISION COURSE

LD211425Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] A course for the chairmen of republican, kray and oblast television and radio committees, secretaries of Moscow raykoms, CPSU gorkoms and raykoms of the oblasts of the central RSFSR [as heard] has ended. The course was held with the aim of raising the qualifications of party and soviet workers of the Extramural Higher Party School at the CPSU Central Committee.

The participants in the course directed their attention to problems of the party's domestic and foreign policy; party leadership in developing economics and culture; the organizational and political work in the masses; documents of the 25th CPSU Congress; the new USSR Constitution; topical problems of Marxist-Leninist theory and the building of communism as expounded in the works of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and other party leaders.

In the course of instruction the following subjects received comprehensive treatment: further increasing the practical activities of Soviet television and radio with regard to the communist education of the workers; active participation of mass propaganda media in fulfilling the national economic plans of the 10th 5-Year Plan; improving the forms and methods of leadership of economic and socio-cultural development in the light of the decisions of 25th CPSU Congress and the December 1977 plenum of the CPSU Central Committee; letters of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee to the workers of the country; and the results of the visit of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to the Siberian and Far Eastern regions.

Talks were given by the following: Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Kapitonov; Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Zimyanin; Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Kirillin; heads of departments of the CPSU Central Committee Dmitriyev and Zamyatin; USSR Ministers Yelyutin, Petrovskiy, Prokofyev, Terebilov, Shchelokov; chairmen of state committees Bulgakov, Yermash and Lapin; First Secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee Pastukhov; Chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy Yepishev; Chief Editor of KOMMUNIST Kosolapov; Director of the USA and Canada Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences Arbatov; Director of the State and Law Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences Kudryavtsev; responsible workers of the apparatus of CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers; leaders of ministries and departments, scientific establishments and organizations.

During the course, a broad exchange of experience took place concerning the organization and substance of ideological work, increasing the role of television and broadcasting in building communism, fulfilling the plans and obligations of the 10th 5-Year Plan, and successfully realizing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress.

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 20-23 APR

LD220608 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0500 GMT on 20 April reports that Volgograd farmers have sown a total of 1.5 million hectares to early spring crops, which is more than 60 percent of the planned area. Farmers of Nikolayevskaya Oblast are completing sowing of early grain crops. Sowing of sunflowers and sugar beets is in progress. On southern fields corn is being sown. Mechanizers of Belgorodskaya Oblast have also started sowing this crop. At 1900 GMT the radio reports that in Belorussia, potatoes are being planted on a total area of about 450,000 hectares. High-yield local varieties are being used.

At 0030 GMT on 21 April, the radio carries the Efir-1 hook-up presented by Aleksandr Ruvinskiy, who says the amount of spring crops sown over the past week exceeds that of the previous week by some 50 percent. Sowing in the southern areas of the country has been followed by that of kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the Central Chernozem oblasts and the Volga region. Sowing machinery has also gone out to the fields in some parts of the Non-Chernozem Zone, where the soil had dried, such as in rayons of Moscovskaya Oblast. The same applies to area in the southern Urals. Spring fieldwork is developing in Belorussia, the Baltic areas, the Far East, Kazakhstan and even southern parts of Siberia. More that 20 million hectares had been sown to spring crops by the middle of April. In the Central Asian republics and the Transcaucasus, spring work is nearing completion. Sowing of spring crops, including cotton is ending. Strong shoots have appeared; many farms have begun haymaking. Voroshilovgradskaya Oblast in the Ukraine has completed sowing of early cereals and its machine operators have required considerably less time than last year. Many rayons have begun sowing corn, sunflowers and sugar beets. Spring fieldwork is also developing in the southern oblasts of the Non-Chernozem Zone. All the rayons of Kostromskaya Oblast are now engaged in mineral fertilizing of winter crops. The first grain sowing machines went out to the fields of Kostroma Rayon today. There is more machinery in action this year than last: 10,400 tractors of various makes will be out this year--more than ever before in Kostromskaya Oblast. There is a new organization of works in progress as well, since the Ipatovo method is spreading on the northern Non-Chernozem Zone as elsewhere.

At 0500 GMT the radio reports that in the Ukraine sowing of early crops has been completed by five oblasts in the southwest of the republic. The first s[illegible] have made their appearance in Krymskaya and Odesskaya oblasts. The sowing of sugar beets has been completed in record time in the Ivano-Frankovskaya and Chernovitskaya oblasts. In Kazakhstan, sowing of early crops is being carried out by the Semipalatinskaya, Aktyubinskaya and Pavlodarskaya oblasts. The sowing of grain crops has been completed in the south. Barley and wheat have been sown on an area of over 1 million hectares. Farmers in the republic are planning to sow early crops on almost 30 million hectares. In the southern Volga region, early grain crops have been sown on half the intended land--about 1.3 million hectares. In the Omsk Priirtysh area all areas have commenced fieldwork. Thousands of machines are harrowing. More than 3 million hectares of land have to be prepared for sowing. In Smolenskaya Oblast the first few hundred hectares of early grain crops have been sown in the southern regions.

At 0800 GMT the radio reports that sowing in Kurskaya Oblast is proceeding at fast pace. So far 10 rayons of the oblast have completed the sowing of spring grain crops.

At 0900 GMT correspondent Gennadiy Klimov reports that sowing units have appeared on the fields of Orenburgskaya Oblast. Snowfalls in April are a rather rare phenomenon for the southern Urals, but this spring was generous with cold surprises. They held up the beginning of fieldwork in Orenburgskaya Oblast too long [perederzhali]. Only by mid-April did the cold winds die down and had the time come for the sowing campaign.

At 1000 GMT the radio reports that corn sowing began in Moldavia today. The area sown to corn this year will be almost 100,000 hectares more than last year. Sowing is to be carried out in 8-10 days. In Altayskiy Kray, 10,000 tractor brigades are at work on moisture retention. By today this work has been carried out on a million hectares, which is one-sixth of the arable area.

At 2050 GMT the radio reports that Ukrainian farmers are sowing spring crops on the 8 millionth hectare. Mechanized complexes, which have been formed everywhere, are working successfully. Foresters have begun spring work in southern Ukraine.

At 1530 GMT on 22 April, the radio reports that Saratovskaya Oblast has begun spring sowing work. About 5 million hectares are to be sown to spring crops. The radio also reports that mechanizers in Dnepropetrovskaya Oblast have completed the sowing of sugarbeet. In order to obtain a good harvest sugarbeet has been sown on well-cultivated soil with a simultaneous spreading of mineral fertilizer.

At 1700 GMT, the radio notes the first 200,000 hectares in Ryazamskaya Oblast have been sown with spring grain crops.

At 0500 GMT on 23 April, the radio notes that almost 10,000 tractor units are working on the fields of Altayskiy Kray. Farmers of the central and eastern regions of the kray are starting to cultivate and till the soil, and moisture retention is being carried out by large mechanized units. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes are preparing for the sowing of perennial grasses, peas, grain fodder and other early crops. Plentiful rain has fallen on most areas in the kray and has complemented the reserves of spring moisture. The radio adds that in Kurskaya Oblast farmers are completing the sowing of early grain crops. So far, 90 percent--800,000 hectares--of the planned crop area have been sown.

At 1100 GMT the radio notes that field workers in Volgogradskaya Oblast have shown barley and wheat on 90 percent of the planned area, which is 2.2 million hectares. The sowing of early grain crops is ending in most of the rayons of the oblast and mechanizers are preparing the soil for corn and sunflower. In Brestskaya Oblast the mechanizers are leaving the fields after having sowed the grain crops. Meanwhile the sowing of late crops has begun in the Ukraine.

PRAVDA REVIEWS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS, SHORTCOMINGS

LD211241Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[A. Pazhitnev agricultural review: "For a Big Harvest"]

[Excerpt] As the USSR Central Statistical Administration reports, by 17 April more than 20 million hectares in the country as a whole had been sown to spring crops--13 percent of the plan. For the pace of the work is increasing. Over the past week seeds have been sown on 8.2 million hectares.

In the RSFSR, 34 oblasts, krays and autonomous republics are already sowing. Here the spring grain area occupies 4.6 million hectares. Having coped with early grain crops, many Ukrainian and North Caucasus oblasts and other regions are sowing corn and planting potatoes. Ukrainian farms as a whole have sown 7.4 million hectares of spring crops.

Beet growers are successfully keeping the May Day watch. This important industrial crop already occupies approximately 1.3 million of the 3.7 million hectares allocated to it.

Sowing units are leaving the cottonfields. In Uzbekistan, the "white gold" plantations cover more than 1.5 million hectares. Interrow cultivation of cotton shoots is beginning in places in Azerbaijan, Turkmenia and Tadzhikistan. In the country as a whole, 2.6 million hectares have been sown to this crop, or 86 percent of the plan.

This year, the countryside will receive more than 80 million tons of fertilizers--3 million tons more than last year. A very important task for grain growers, transportation workers and Selkhoztekhnika workers is to prevent losses and insure the efficient use of every gram of mineral fertilizer. Correct storage of mineral fertilizers and their rational use have been organized on many farms. However, examples of a different kind are also encountered. On the Drut and Kalinovskiy sovkhozes and the Chkalov Kolkhoz in Mogilevskaya Oblast's Belynichskiy Rayon, mineral fertilizers are dumped out in the open or directly in the fields, where they are washed away by rain and melted snow. Party committees and bureaus, leaders of collectives and specialists must without delay put a stop to such instances of mismanagement.

Those who supply the countryside with mineral fertilizers must also pull themselves together. The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution on additional measures to prepare for and carry out spring fieldwork obliges industrial enterprises to efficiently fulfill the farmers' orders. However, the Balakovo and Uvarovo chemical plants, the Rovno Azot production association and certain other collectives owe rural workers many thousands of tons of fertilizers.

While taking measures for a steady rise in yields per hectare, farmers must increase gross yields of grain and other valuable food crops by extending the sowing area. The grain area in Udmurtia will cover an unprecedentedly large area for the republic this year--more than 900,000 hectares. It has been extended by opening up waste land, unproductive pastures and reclaimed scrubland. In recent years, farms here have managed to add a further 100,000 hectares of arable land to the grain area.

In the Kustanay Steppe, once-sterile saline soil is becoming productive. The Mayakovskiy Sovkhoz will sow wheat and corn on it. Saline lands have been brought into circulation thanks to biological amelioration--the cultivation of grasses capable of reducing the salinity of the soil. This year this agricultural method is being used on 20,000 hectares in the oblast.

Here too industrial workers can and must give the countryside substantial assistance. Thus the Bendery construction materials plant has handed over to the Varnitskiy Sovkhoz a 30-hectare plot which used to serve as a quarry. Green shoots have once again come up here now. Since the start of the 5-year plan enterprises of the Moldavian Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry alone have recultivated more than twice the area of land that they have acquired for new extraction projects. At the same time the miners of the Kuzbass and the Kursk magnetic anomaly and the oilmen of Bashkiria and Tataria do not always return arable land to its former owners in good time or in good condition.

The successful completion of sowing and its high quality largely depend on those who are called upon to serve the peasant's technical equipment. Reports coming from Virgin Land farms in Kazakhstan, Siberia and other regions attest that not all equipment is ready to go into the fields. Kokchetavskaya Oblast, for example, lacks tractor spares and trailer implements. The Gatchinselmash plant is behind with deliveries of seed dressers, and the Altay motor plant--engine crankshafts and piston rings. It is a matter of honor for machine builders to clear their debt to the farmers in the shortest possible time.

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

POLISH COSMONAUT TO TAKE PART IN NEXT SALYUT EXPEDITION

LD1810347 Moscow TASS in English 0957 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 18, TASS--A Polish cosmonaut will take part in next expedition after the commencement of a Soviet crew's work on board the orbital station Salyut, Vladimir Shatalov, director of the Soviet cosmonauts' training, told a TASS correspondent. He said the training of representatives of the Polish People's Republic jointly with Soviet cosmonauts began in the same group in which Vladimir Remek, citizen of Czechoslovakia, underwent training too. He was the first to get an opportunity to work on board the orbital Salyut-6 station among the international crew together with Yuriy Romanenko, Georgiy Grechko and Aleksey Gubarev.

General Shatalov said the preparation for the flight and training studies have been completed, in the main.

All the command of the Gagarin Cosmonauts' Training Centre and specialists are satisfied with the crews that now undergo training for future flights, he pointed out.

TASS PROVIDES UPDATE OF PARAMETERS OF SALYUT-6

LD211626Y Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 21 TASS--A TASS correspondent reports from the Flight Control Centre:

The scientific station Salyut-6, put in near-terrestrial orbit on September 29, 1977, continues its flight in the automatic mode. By 14 hours Moscow time today the station had made 3224 revolutions around the earth.

At present, the parameters of the station's orbit are as follows: maximum distance from the surface of the earth--352 kilometers, minimum distance--319 kilometers, period of revolution--91 minutes, inclination of orbit--51.6 degrees.

The onboard systems of Salyut-6 are functioning normally. The parameters of the microclimate in the compartments are being maintained within the set limits.

BRIEFS

RESEARCH IN THREE OCEANS--Vladivostok, April 20 TASS--The expedition on-board the research ship Professor Bogorov has completed the complex study of interaction between the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of the top layers of the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific oceans. The scientists studied the type composition of plankton found in three large meridional oceanographic sections. The changeability of the quantity of minor marine organisms has been traced. The content of bioorganic matter in the water was determined for the first time by the method of outboard laser sounding. Active daily migration of plankton organisms was observed. An anomaly was recorded off the western shores of Africa--the content of chlorophyl in water was considerably higher than usual. During their cruise across the three oceans the scientists took fifteen hundred water tests, including some from the lower layers of the Mariana Depression in the Pacific Ocean, the deepest in the world. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 0926 GMT 20 Apr 78 LD]

ICE STATION'S ACTIVITIES--Spring has come to the Severnyy Polyus-23, with day-long sunshine and the temperature not dropping below -30 centigrade. In 6 months, the station has drifted over 500 km. It has crossed the 88th parallel and has less than 200 km to go to the North Pole. Equipment and fuel for the summer work is now being delivered to the station. Recently, a group of researchers arrived to help with observations of the surrounding ocean using AN-2 aircraft. In a little while just 17 people will be left on the iceberg. They will remain until the station is closed this December. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 13 Apr 78 LD]

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